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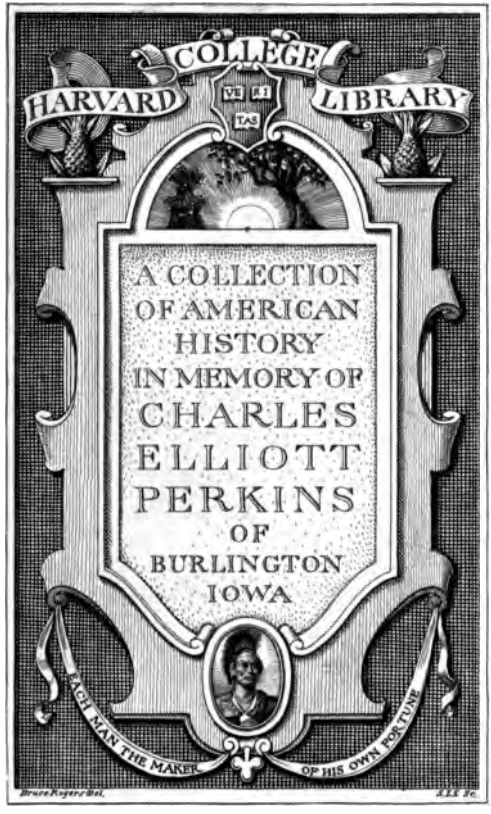
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A VIEW OF CALIFORNIA AS IT IS.

[SECOND EDITION.]

BALLOU & CO'S PRINT.

R. 6 Ch.

A VIEW OF

CALIFORNIA

AS IT IS.

CONTAINING RELIABLE INFORMATION ON THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE STATE; ITS AGRICULTURAL, MINING, AND MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES; ITS COMMERCE, CLIMATE, HISTORY, POPULATION, ETC. ETC.

With a Description of each County of California, and of the Pacific States and Territories, their Distances from San Francisco, the Modes of Travel, and Cost of Reaching them.

BY JOSEPH WEED,
FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS A RESIDENT OF CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO:
BYNON & WRIGHT, PUBLISHERS,
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1874.

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Author's Preface.

In presenting to the world this little book, no one can be more sensible of its defects than the Author. To circumscribe its pages so as to bring it within a price easily to be paid by the poorest, as well as to make it sufficiently brief as a book of reference, many interesting details had to be omitted, but the FACTS have been retained, and are here presented to the reader with whatever of perspicuity and fairness the Author could command. Perhaps few will find fault on account of the brevity of any part of the work.

"CALIFORNIA AS IT IS," goes forth on its own merits. It is the pioneer of no Land Speculation, nor the offspring of any company or clique; hence, there has been but one motive in its execution, and that has been to represent what the Author conscientiously believes to be the fairest portion of God's great world

AS IT IS.

The defects of California, where they are known, have been as faithfully portrayed as its beauties; and it is confidently believed that those who visit the Golden State, will find it not greatly differing from what it is represented to be in the following pages.

OVERLAND RAILROAD FARES TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	1st Class.	Emigrant.
From Boston	$139 95	$61 00
" New York	137 95	60 00
" Halifax	155 45	79 20
" Philadelphia	135 95	60 00
" Cincinnati	124 35	55 50
" Chicago	115 95	55 50
" St. Louis	115 95	55 50
" Omaha	100 00	45 00

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From Omaha	$ 90 00	$75 00 good for 6 days.
" Chicago	195 90	85 00 good for 8 days.
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" New York	125 00	good for 15 days.
" "		85 00 good for 10 days.

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e the wealth of a State. The consequence was le, ignorant population, small in numbers, without the least enterprise or ambition for ovement on the part of the native inhabit-

er the war commenced between the United s and Mexico, in 1846, the naval forces of the d States, early in July, took possession of is now the State of California. Several ishes took place between the small forces americans were able to raise, and treble the bers of Mexicans, in which the latter were so ually checked that on the arrival of a regi- of volunteers under Col. Stevenson, from York, all ideas of further resistance were doned. By the treaty between the two na- at the end of the war, California was for- y ceded to the United States by the Mexican rnment; and in a few years the discovery of made it the most famous portion of the habit- globe.

a short time the vagrant seamen and most less of the population passing their lives in ess and immorality in the ports on the ds and the other harbors on the Pacific, found way to the land of gold, where they intend- live, if possible, on the labor of more indus- s and more honest people than themselves. g in nearer proximity to the Golden Gate, were able to reach it before immigrants from tlantic or Western States, and introduce un- ted, intemperance, gambling, and all other s of vice. These outlaws gave California a

name that otherwise would have been undeserved. From them came the ruffians known as "The Hounds," who in 1849 made it necessary for the best citizens to organize, as they did, to put down the brutal outrages, burglaries, and thefts, in open day. For some time after the city was undisturbed by this element, and very valuable property was left exposed without being touched. But after a time burglaries became again frequent, and such desperate, daring crimes were committed, that a Vigilance Committee was organized, with regular officers, who proceeded to arrest, try, convict, and punish the most desperate of the criminals brought before them. In consequence of these proceedings, most of those living by crime who were not arrested, left the city for a time, fearing their turns would come next. The Vigilance Committee of 1856 organized after the murder of James King of William, was to a certain extent political, as after trying, convicting, and hanging the murderer of Mr. King, and three others equally guilty of the same crime, and banishing a score or two of lesser criminals, the committee, as a body, disbanded, leaving, however, a conviction in the minds of the people, that it was unsafe to leave the city government in the hands of such politicians as had heretofore controlled all nominations and elections. The result of this was the formation of the People's Party, which for years ruled the city, and gave it a municipal government that was at once the most economical and efficient that could be devised.

At present it is believed that California is as

well governed as other States in the Union, and that crime is punished with as much certainty as elsewhere. A few desperadoes, scattered over our almost boundless territory, with the advantage of mountain ranges and valleys but partially explored, have thus the opportunity of eluding the officers of the law, for awhile; but in most cases they are sooner or later brought to justice, and pay the penalty of their crimes, quite as surely as in the older States.

FARES, DISTANCES AND MEANS OF TRAVEL.

—o—

FROM SAN FRANCISCO

To points in California :

BY RAILROAD—

Town.	Fare.	Distance
San Jose	$ 2 00	47
Hollister		95
Lathrop	3 50	81
Merced	7 50	138
Delano	19 00	268
Stockton	3 50	91
Sacramento	4 00	138
Auburn	6 50	174
Cisco	11 75	230
Truckee	14 25	257
Reno	17 00	292
Elko	40 50	606
Ogden	53 00	881
Marysville	5 50	190
Chico	8 50	233
Redding	13 25	308
Sacramento, via Vallejo	4 00	78
" " 2d Class	1 50	—
" per steamer, variable.		

PER GOODALL, NELSON & PERKINS' SEAMERS.

Santa Cruz	3 00	80
San Luis Obisdo	10 00	209
Santa Barbara	10 00	280
San Pedro	12 00	364
San Diego	15 00	446

OREGON.

Portland, 642 miles. Fare, $30 cabin, $15 steerage. Ocean steamer once a week, or Cal. Pacific R. R. to Sacramento, Oregon Division to Redding, stage to Portland,

Dalles, 710 miles. River steamer daily from Portland.

Albany, 678 miles. Cal. Pacific or C. P. R. R. to Sacramento, Oregon Division to Redding, stage to Albany.

Salem, 730 miles. Ocean steamer to Portland, river steamer to Salem.

VANCOUVER ISLAND.

Victoria, per steamer on the 5th and 20th of each month. *Fare $30.* Distance 748 miles. Steamers run from Victoria *to all the ports of* British Columbia.

From San Francisco to points in

ARIZONA.

From San Francisco to Tuscon, via San Diego. San Diego to Tuscon, Tuesdays and Thursdays, per Stage, 513 miles, fare, $90.

To Prescott from San Barnardino via Ehsenbergh and Wickenburg, semi-weekly a Stage through in six days, fare $75.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Olympia, via Portland, Oregon, thence by steamer and stage, 767 miles. From Olympia, at the head of Puget's Sound, there is connection by steamers and stages with every part of the Territory. Fare from San Francisco $37.

IDAHO.

To Winnemucca by Central Pacific R. R. 462 miles, $29 75, by Stage to Boise City 270 miles, $—— from there stages run to the principal towns and camps in the Territory.

To Fort Benton via Corrinne and the C. P. R. R. 857 miles, fare $53, by Stage 600 miles, fare $——.

The northern portion of the same, can be reached via Portland, Oregon by Steamers and Stages, more conveniently than by the way of Winnemucca.

—o—

TABLE OF DISTANCES AND ELEVATIONS.

STATIONS.	Dist. fm Sn Fran.	Ab'v Sea Level.	STATIONS.	Dist. fm Sn Fran.	Ab'v Sea Level.
		Ft.			
San Francisco	0	.....	Reno	292	4,525
Livermore	47	520	Wadsworth	327	4,104
Stockton	90	46	Humboldt	422	4,262
Sacramento	138	56	Elko	606	5,030
Rocklin	160	269	Ogden	828	4,943
Auburn	174	1,385	Echo Summit	946	6,880
Colfax	192	2,448	Sherman	1,363	8,424
Dutch Flat	205	3.425	Cheyenne	1,396	7,040
Cisco	230	5,911	Omaha	1,912	965
Summit	243	7,042	Chicago	2,406	625
Truckee	258	5,866	New York	3,305	Tide

FAMILY SUPPLIES.

The following are the prices paid in the stor and markets of San Francisco this Summ They have not varied materially for years past.

Beef, Tenderloin 10c. Porterhouse 18c. Roasts 15 to 2
Mutton, 8 to 12 cents per pound.
Fresh Pork, 12 to 15 cents.
Hams and Bacon, 15 to 18 cents.
Fresh Salmon, 6 to 12 cents.
Potatoes, 1 to 2 cents per pound.
Apples, Peaches and Pears, 3 to 5 cents.
Grapes and Plums, 2 to 6 cents for ordinary kinds, extra or scarce fruit a few cents higher.
California Butter, 30c. in summer to 60c. in winter.
Eggs, per doz. 25c. in summer to 50c. in winter.
California fresh Cheese, 15 to 20 cents.
Flour, $5 to $6 50 per barrel.
Sugar, white, 8 to 9 pounds for $1.
Sugar, Fine Brown 9 to 10 pounds for $1.

Goods from Europe and the Atlantic States a sold at a small advance on Eastern prices, tl difference being not far from that between go and greenbacks.

—o—

RESTAURANTS.

The Restaurants in this city are as a rule muc superior to those in Eastern cities, not only in tl excellence of the food they furnish, the moderat prices charged, but in the superior style of tl building they occupy, the taste displayed in fi ting them up and their general cleanliness an good management. A man, in some of them, ca live very comfortably at an expense ranging fro 25 to 50 cents per day. Hundreds of hard workin men do this and are entirely satisfied. Mea range according to the standing of the house, fro *10 to 25* cents and in some cases 50 cents each.

Publisher's Notice.

California is so extensive a State, almost an Empire in itself, with such a variety of soil, climate, and attractions, that few, even of its own inhabitants, have any correct idea, of its magnitude, and of the inducements it offers to settlers from other lands. It must, and does seem a paradise to visitors from the east, whether from Europe, or from the other portions of this continent; especially if they arrive in the early Spring, as leaving their homes while Winter is scarcely ended, and vegetation not yet to be seen, they cross the snow-clad mountains, and sterile plains, and ascending the Sierra Nevadas, where frost and snow still reign supreme, they, in three or four hours, find themselves in the midst of flowers and green fields, with almost boundless acres of grain waving in the breeze; with early fruits and vegetables, loading the tables at the hotels, and all nature bidding them welcome to a land literally flowing with milk and honey.

While all this is true to the letter, it is not proposed to make this work an eulogium on the

Golden State, but it is intended to make it one in which those who visit, or desire to visit the Pacific Coast with a view of making it their abode, may find such information as shall be valuable, in directing them where it will be most to their advantage to locate, should they conclude to make this portion of the Country their home; as well as interesting to all who desire to be better informed as to the vast resources of the Golden State.

A person, in changing his residence will naturally look for such a location as is suited to the occupation he intends to follow; if a farmer, he seeks good, productive and cheap lands, as well as facilities for sending his surplus produce to the best markets, at an expense that will leave him a fair remuneration for the labor and capital employed. If he has a family of children, he will desire to fix his residence where he can send his children to good schools, and be placed under such moral influences as will be calculated to benefit them through life. Should he wish to take his chances as a miner, he will be desirous of learning in what portion of the country the probabilities of success in that pursuit, will, most likely, be in his favor. If a mechanic, he wants information as to where his skill will be most in demand. If a working manufacturer, where he can best find employment. And so whatever his occupation or purposes, he desires such reliable information to guide him in seeking, and aid him in determining what is most likely to secure his future prosperity.

This information is equally desirable to persons *who* may have come here with great expectations,

but little knowledge of the State, and have endeavored to realize their visions of wealth, in places totally unfitted for the occupations for which nature and education has designed them, but who, when better informed, may without difficulty, slide into the position suited to their capacity, and accumulate fortunes almost without effort.

To point out such places, in as few words as possible, is what the publisher of this work has endeavored to accomplish, and hopes it will prove alike to his own advantage, and that of those who purchase it.

CALIFORNIA AS IT IS.

—o—

With such an abundance of material to select from, so many glowing descriptions of hundreds of places within the bounds of the State, it is difficult to condense, from such a mass of matter, that which shall be most interesting as well as useful, to those for whom this work is especially intended.

The resources of this, the Empire State of the Pacific, are unquestionably greater and more varied than those of any portion of the Union. With an area equal to a kingdom, a coast line of hundreds of miles, mountain ranges extending through its entire length, some of whose peaks rise 15,000 feet above the level of the sea; rivers navigable hundreds of miles; bays and harbors large enough for the entire navies of the world to ride at anchor, securely in their waters; and soil capable of producing every necessity and luxury required by man; surely it offers all that can be desired by those who make it their home. Visitors from the Eastern States, go home enthusiastic in praise of the climate and productions of California, and write in glowing terms of its beauty

and richness. Their testimony certainly cannot be disputed when they relate what they have seen, and in what they have no personal interest.

A writer in *Harpers' Magazine*, says: "There are so many chances in life, out there, that men become over enterprising, etc. And, meanwhile, California has gifts of nature which form a solid substratum upon which will, in a few years, be built up a community productive far beyond the average of productive communities."

The statistics of 1872 show that the agricultural productions of that year were valued at $75,000,000, produced by the labor of little over 50,000 people, or $1,750 each, a result unexampled in the productions of other countries. This was all produced by cultivating not over 4,000,000 acres, or an average of nearly $20 per acre; much of it, as is well known, cultivated in the most imperfect and slovenly manner. With but one tenth of the 40,000,000 acres of equally good land in the State, in use, it will be seen that, were it all brought under cultivation, at the same profit, it would produce crops valued at $750,000,000, a sum that is more than half equal to the whole yearly agricultural productions of the United States; and that all this would require the labor of only half a million of men. This may, to those unacquainted with the fertility of the soil, and the vast extent of the State, seem incredible; but to those who have resided in California, and visited its different sections, it will be admitted to be nothing more than a plain, unexaggerated statement of facts, and prospective productions.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

—o—

California is situated on the west coast of North America between latitude 32° 45′ and latitude 42° north, and between longitude 37° 10′ and 47° 30′ west from Washington. It is about 700 miles in length, and nearly 200 in breadth. It is bounded north, by Oregon, east by Nevada and Arizona, south by Lower California and the Pacific Ocean, and westerly also by the Pacific Ocean. It contains nearly 160,000 square miles, and something over 100,000,000 of acres, over one half of which is suited for farming purposes; of the balance, much of it is valuable for the pasture it furnishes in the summer, and the timber, without which mining cannot be successfully carried on. Much as has been said of the barren alkali plains, deserts, and rocky naked mountains, few countries have a smaller proportion of wholly worthless land than California.

The great Plain running nearly through the centre of the State, is divided into the Sacramento Valley, lying on both sides of that noble river, and extending from Suisun Bay, north nearly 200 miles; and the San Joaquin Valley which runs *from* the same point southerly nearly an equal

distance; both valleys varying in width from about 20 to 40 miles. The northern portion of this great plain is generally supplied with rain in abundance, while the southern part is subject to drouths, that in past years have nearly destroyed the crops of the farmer. Experience has shown, that without irrigation, no dependence can be placed on raising crops or the ordinary grasses, on much of the San Joaquin Plains, but from the partial experiments made with a plentiful supply of water, this apparently worthless ground proves to be productive beyond the most sanguine hopes of the capitalists who are investing millions of money in digging canals and ditches, which will, in a few years, make what has hitherto been believed to be almost worthless, the most productive portion of the State.

There are literally hundreds of valleys, some of which are to be found in nearly every portion of the State; numbers of them, many miles in length and nearly equal breadth, which in other portions of the Union, or in any part of Europe, would be regarded as wonders of fertility and beauty; but in their abundance here, are not thought at all remarkable. In a portion of these valleys there is a drawback in the scarcity of wood, for timber and fuel, but this can be obviated, as trees can be planted that in a few years, will to a great extent supply what is required.

Productions of the Soil.

—o—

There are few grains, fruits, or vegetables produced in any part of the world, that cannot be successfully cultivated in California. At present, the great staple grain raised for export is wheat, a cereal that, twenty-five years ago, no one dreamed would ever be raised here in quantities above what would be wanted to supply bread for its own inhabitants; now, hundreds of ship-loads are annually sent to feed foreign nations. All portions of the State produce this valuable grain in greater or less abundance, but the general average of the crop far exceeds that of all other States in the Union, and, notwithstanding the higher wages paid to laborers and the great distance of the foreign market, and the high rate of freight, it is still found to be remunerative to the farmer. A large portion of the land cultivated is devoted to this crop as the one most readily disposed of, and paying the best profit, as it always finds a ready cash market, which is never really overstocked. Barley is largely cultivated, and is even more sure of yielding a good return than wheat, averaging over thirty bushels to the acre. It is used to a large extent for feeding horses and cattle, and for fattening swine, as well as making malt liquors for which it is said to possess superior qualities.

Oats are also produced in large quantities, yie a very large return, and are becoming a favori feed for horses, which prefer it to all other grai

In some portions of the State Indian corn is raised to advantage, but generally it is not a profitable crop, and its cultivation is limited to particular locations, where enough is produced to supply the other portions of the State.

Rye is grown to a small extent and can be raised in any desired quantity, to supply all demands. The same can be said of buck-wheat, enough of which has been raised to prove it will flourish equally well as other grains on this Coast. It is not improbable that rice will be found suited to some portions of the State, and by the aid of irrigation it may become a production well adapted to much of the land unsuited to other purposes.

Cotton will doubtless, in a very few years, be one of the most important productions of the State; enough has been grown to prove the soil and climate of a large portion of its rich valley lands peculiarly adapted to its cultivation, and to show it to be one of the most profitable crops that can be raised. [In another portion of this work some further particulars will be given on this subject.]

Flax is grown only for its seed up to this time, and pays reasonably well for that purpose. Were there manufactories for working and using its fibre, as there should be, it could be made doubly profitable.

Hops are especially suited to the climate, and are raised to great advantage and of the very best quality. Were it found profitable they could be

produced in quantities large enough to supply the world.

Tobacco is being raised with great success in places; particularly in the vicinity of Gilroy. some sixty miles south of San Francisco, on the east side of Santa Clara Valley. There is no doubt it could be succesfully cultivated in nearly all the valleys of the State.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

To enumerate all the fruits grown in the State, would make an almost complete list of all that are to be found in other portions of the globe, including some hitherto believed to be confined to the tropics. Of apples, there are stated to be nearly two hundred varieties, of pears some one hundred and thirty kinds, peaches nearly seventy, cherries fifty, plums forty, apricots fifteen, grapes twenty native and twenty-five foreign varieties, strawberries twenty-five, currants twenty, gooseberries fifteen, raspberries fourteen. Of oranges, limes and lemons there are many varieties growing in great perfection in the southern and middle parts of the State. Figs flourish equally well as oranges, and almost every variety are to be found in the markets of San Francisco. Almonds are successfully cultivated, and, in a few years, will supercede the foreign article in the Markets of California. Olives, also, are produced without difficulty, and will, in due time, form an important item in the resources of the State. Quinces, finer than any ever seen on the Atlantic slope, are as plentiful in their season as can be desired.

Grapes are considered by many as one of the most important productions of the State, and certainly there is nothing produced in greater perfection, or with less toil and expense. Grape vines flourish in the valleys and foot hills of the central and southern portions of the State, and produce fruit which, for the table, raisin making, or for wines, cannot be surpassed by those raised in any portion of the globe. When converted into raisins by the more perfect processes known in Spain, they will find a market almost without limit, and vie hereafter with the profits of the trade in wine, without any of the questionable results of that traffic.

Cultivated berries are raised in immense quantities in Santa Clara valley, giving profitable employment to thousands, and paying the owners of the soil large profits for the use of the land. These berries are sent to San Francisco by the carload over the railroad, while in season, often more than one carload of ten tons each day. Most of the small fruits sold in the Bay city come from that valley, which furnishes them in such abundance as to reduce the prices to a sum that enables the poor as well as the rich to indulge in these Heaven sent health giving luxuries.

It is said the tea plant is adapted to the foot hills of the State. Some partial experiments have been made, but not enough to determine whether it can be successfully cultivated, though it is believed to be practicable.

All kinds of vegetables known in other portions of the United States flourish and grow to perfec-

tion in California, and to them may be added several valuable varieties scarcely heard of on the other side of the continent. And not only is this true, but nearly all of these can be purchased in the markets of the cities and towns of the State at all seasons of the year at reasonable prices. New potatoes, turnips, radishes and a dozen other kinds of roots and vegetables are found in the markets of the Bay City, in the midst of the winter season, and when frost, snow and ice cover the earth in the same lattitude on the eastern side of the Rocky Mountains.

Sugar beets are grown successfully in most places where they have been planted, and prove to be much richer in saccharine matter than those raised either in France, or in the Atlantic States, and, besides this, they can remain in the ground without injury through the winter; a very great advantage to the manufacturers of beet sugar here over those engaged in the business where they have to harvest and house their crops to prevent their being destroyed.

The native grasses, in their season, cannot be excelled for nutritious qualities, and even when dried up so that not a particle of green can be discovered, they will keep cattle in good condition. Various kinds of grasses have been sown, and it is now believed that the kind called alfalfa is best adapted to the climate, and, with the aid of irrigation, will be found affording an amount of hay and grass almost beyond belief. Stories are told of its production that would astonish the old farmers on either side of the Atlantic.

COAST COUNTIES.

WITH THEIR LOCATION AND CHARACTERISTICS.

—o—

SAN DIEGO COUNTY.

This large county is bounded on the South by the Mexican Territory of Lower California, on the west by the Pacific, on the north by San Bernardino, on the east by the Colorada River, and Arizona. It is one hundred and fifty miles in length, and one hundred in breadth, and contains over eight millions of acres, of which nearly three millions comprise the Colorada Desert, and about an equal quantity is covered by sterile mountains, leaving a balance of something over two millions available for grazing and farming purposes, a large portion of which, is as yet unoccupied. With several fine streams running from the mountains to the ocean, through this part of the country, it can be made very productive by the aid of the irrigation for which nature has provided the means.

Heretofore, the principle products of that county have been cattle, sheep, hides, and wool; but more enterprising settlers are, to some extent, taking the lead of the old ones, and their productions are beginning to find their way into market. Oranges,

Olives, Figs, Raisins, Grapes, and Almonds, grow to perfection here, and can be cultivated at a profit.

It is understood a large Colony will settle, very soon, on what is known as the Santa Margarite Ranch, in the northern end of this county; the proprietor of which proposes to give to each head of a family eighty acres with a common fence, and allow them, besides, the use of a reasonable number of cows and horses. All he exacts for this, is that each man shall put upon his own land improvements worth one thousand dollars. The soil and other advantages are said to be equally as good as those of Anaheim, where so much wealth has been accumulated in a few years. In an area so large, doubtless many other locations exist, where equal inducements will be found, and much good land, not claimed by owners of Mexican titles, but free for preemtion under the laws of the Nation.

There are several districts in the county where mining is carried on to good advantage. Gold bearing ores, producing from twenty to forty dollars per ton, are found in various locations, and it is believed, than when more fully developed, many of these will richly repay their owners. The Julian Mines, the Bladin Mines, the Holcomb Valley Mines, and the Banner Mines, give employment to several hundred miners, and have built up several towns near where they are situated. These mines develope the country, and induce settlement by furnishing a market for the productions of the farmer, and informing them where good

land is to be had with Uncle Sam's title. As a sample of the towns built up by these mines we give the following:

"Banner Mining District, in San Felipe Cañon, San Diego County, is now a very thriving settlement. It contains two hotels, two stores, a butcher-shop, two mill offices, a blacksmith-shop, a livery stable, three or four saloons, and twenty-five or thirty residences."

The time will come when this county will be a home for hundreds of thousands of prosperous citizens.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Is the largest county in the State; it lies north of San Diego County, east of Los Angeles, Kern and Inyo Counties, southerly and westerly of the State of Nevada, and Arizona Territory. It contains more than ten millions of acres, of which nearly three quarters are unfit for grazing or agricultural purposes, on account of the inaccessible, rocky mountains, dry desert valleys, and volcanic ranges, which cover almost the entire northern and eastern portion of the county. The celebrated great Death Valley lies mainly in the north-east part of this county, on the eastern side of the great mountain ranges of the State; it is nearly 100 miles long, and 20 miles wide, is destitute of fresh water, but has plenty of springs of alkaline water, which is wholly unfit for use by either man or beast.

The Coast range occupies some three millions of acres, a portion of which are valuable for timber

and grazing, and has valleys which can be cultivated to advantage.

The south-west part of the county presents a contrast as great as possible from the north-eastern. The Santa Ana Run Valley is as beautiful as Death Valley is horrible, and contains all that is desirable to make its inhabitants prosperous and contented with their situation.

Worthless as much of the land of this county is, it contains a good share of the very best land in the State, enough of it too to make a large county, and to sustain a population equal to any other. It has the misfortune to have a large portion of its best lands covered by Mexican grants of great size; the proprietors of which are learning at length that it is to their advantage to have their lands improved, and many of them are selling, in small quantities to actual settlers, portions of their great ranches at moderate prices, and giving a perfect title therefor, greatly to their own profit.

In a pamphlet recently published, relative to that county, Mr. Kern says:

"The fertility of the land astonishes farmers but lately from the east. For example, a farmer puts in a barley crop in January; harvests it in June, getting at least an average of fifty bushels to the acre. Does he let the land rest then? No. He plants corn on the same land, and generally harvests a crop in the Fall, of from 50 to 100 bushels per acre. Sometimes after taking off the crop of barley, he crops the land in beans, and harvests on an average, if he is an experienced bean cultivator, 20,000 lbs to the acre."

Oranges and other tropical fruit grow here in great perfection.

Rich gold mines have been found recently, not far distant from the town of San Bernardino, which prospect well, and shafts and tunnels have been opened, several of which have struck rich ores.

"The value of these mines is greatly enhanced by their close proximity to town, and by being situated so that the cost of their developement will be comparatively trifling. A good road leads to them, and their distance from town is only about 10 or 12 miles. Another very valuable mine has been discovered in the Ord District. It ranges from four to twenty feet in width, and the croppings extend in length nearly a mile. Various assays have been made of the rock; they range from $50 to $600."

The *Guardian* published in that town, says—

"We have no desire to indulge in exaggeration on the subject of our mineral resources, mineral munchausenism is not in our line; it will not pay either for us, or the county. But we frankly and honestly state as our belief, that the richest quartz mines in California exist in this county; and our belief is predicated on figures and facts, which cannot even be disputed, much less controverted, Again, we call the attention of capitalists to the superior and sure opportunities for safe investment of their money, which is offered them in the mines of this county."

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Is bounded east by San Bernardino County,

south by the Ocean, west by Santa Barbara County, and north by Kern County. It contains some two millions of acres, of which the largest portion is suitable for pasturage or cultivation. It is considered the garden of the southern coast, is increasing in population with great rapidity. With the aid of irrigation, it is capable of producing immense crops of grains, grasses, fruits and vegetables of nearly every kind known, on ground that was almost barren heretofore. It is the orange orchard of the Coast, producing the finest varieties in great abundance. A recent number of the *Overland Monthly* informs us—

"The number of oranges received in San Francisco the three past years from the southern counties have been as follows: Oranges received in 1870–1, 1,665,450; oranges received in 1871–2, 4,701,397; oranges received in 1872–3, 4,575,435. From foreign parts there were received in 1872, 4,994,948 oranges, and in 1873, 4,000,000. The above statements show that, with no increase of population or facilities for reaching a more extended market, we need double the present production to equal the home demand."

"The following is the estimated cost of an orange orchard of ten acres: Cost of ten acres of improved land, at $30 per acre, $300; cost of trees, $125; cost of fencing, $300; cost of labor, $300; incidental expenses, $200; total $1,225. Orange trees fifteen years old will bear from 1,000 to 2,000 oranges, netting $20 to $25 per tree, or $1,000 to $2,000 per acre.

B. D. Wilson of Los Angeles nets from his or-

chard $2,000 per annum per acre. The Wolfskill orchard, of thirty acres, nets its owner from $45,000, to $50,000. J. L. Rose sold the oranges from 500 trees in 1872 for $15,000.

The Garden of California.

It is the vineyards and orange and lemon orchards that make Los Angeles the garden spot of California. Just imagine a collection of gardens six miles square, and producing at all times of the year almost everything that grows under the sun. One of the largest, most beautiful places in the city is the Wolfskill vineyard, containing 2,000 orange trees, 100 lemon trees, 500 walnut, 100 fig and 1,000 lime trees, and 55,000 grapevines. Near by it is the vineyard of Mr. Childs, containing 500 orange, 100 lemon, 500 apple, 500 pear, and the same number each of peach, plum, nectarine, apricot, olive, walnut and chestnut trees, and 10,000 vines. Right in the heart of the city is Don Mateo Keller's place, containing 100,000 grapevines, 1,000 lemon, 500 orange, 100 lime, 100 olive, 200 walnut, and 100 fig trees, and all the other variety of fruits known in the North and in the semi-tropics. A few miles from the city Mr. Rose has a vineyard of 200,000 grapevines, and the finest orange orchard in America. Gen. Stoneman, a well-known American officer, also has a superb place. Near him is the vineyard of Col. Kewen, containing 75,000 vines, 800 walnut, 500 orange trees, and 300 each of lemon and olive trees. It must be recollected that from a little elevation in the center of this garden city may be seen the

broad Pacific upon one hand, and upon the other, two hundred miles of mountains, part of the year covered with snow. No such picture may be seen upon the Mediterranean Sea.

"All the grains, vegetables, and fruits of the northern country, and all the semi-tropical productions, are successfully raised in Los Angeles County. Wheat, barley, rye, corn, oats, peas, beans, onions, Irish and Carolina potatoes, &c., and apples, pears, peaches, plums, cherries, nectarines, prunes, figs, olives, walnuts, almonds, apricots, quinces, oranges, lemons, limes, grapes, and all of the melon and berry tribes grow successfully and in great profusion. Almonds are very tender in blossom, and sometimes fail. Cherries and plums do not do well. All the other productions are sure. Oranges, lemons, and limes may be picked from the tree all the year round. Figs bear twice a year, as in many other places. The grape never fails. Corn yields at Los Nietos, and at the Monte, two valleys ten miles each from Los Angeles, from 75 to 125 bushels to the acre; while great quantities of wool, mutton, and beef are raised and sent to market annually, and are second to none in the State, if, indeed, in the world, in quality."

For variety of productions, and richness of soil, few places can vie with this portion of the State, and when to this is added the beauty of the climate, it is certainly one of the most desirable locations that can be found for a permanent residence.

The following picture of this city in winter, we take from the *Star* of recent date:

"What is winter, indeed, in almost every portion of the temperate zone north, elsewhere, is here the perfection of all that is agreeable and health-inspiring. Our winter solstice partakes of that charming interlude of weather between the eastern autumn and winter called Indian summer. The same balmy zephyrs breathe a delicious atmosphere from October to March. While all is rude, and cold, and leafless, and flowerless, and changeable in all of the States east of the Sierras, in Los Angeles County, Southern California, wind and weather are almost perfection; and heaven and earth seemingly conspire, in sunshine and blue sky, in leaf and blossom, and golden fruit, to make this period the very crown of the year."

In addition to its other attractions, Los Angeles has mines containing gold and silver ores, within a few miles of the city of the Angels, which promise to prove valuable. There are several claims already located, and their value will soon be ascertained by the work now being done for that purpose.

A few miles west of Los Angeles are immense deposits of petroleum and asphaltum. Large quantities of the latter are shipped to San Francisco, where it is used for covering roofs, and various other purposes. There are great inducements for mechanics and settlers to locate here, as skillful labor is in demand, and good lands easily obtained.

VENTURA COUNTY.

Ventura county (formerly a part of old Santa Barbara county) is bounded on the south and

west by the ocean, on the north by Santa Barbara county, on the east by San Luis Obispo, Kern and Los Angeles counties, and is largely composed of mountain or grazing land, much of which, however, is fine wheat land.

The principal river is the Santa Clara, which rises in the Soledad Pass and forms a grand and wide valley as it flows towards the sea in a south westerly direction. This valley has much the appearance of an Illinois or Iowa prairie, leaving out the high mountains and foot hills which rise up on either side. The Sespe, the Santa Paula and the Piru are all small streams, with considerable arable land in their valleys, which empty into the Santa Clara from the north side.

The timber is mostly white-oak, live-oak, and sycamore. There is the greatest abundance of all these varieties along the streams and in the cañons.

All the rich wild grasses known to California, the burr-clover, atifierie, etc., grow abundantly on the hills, and in the valleys. They turn to hay on the ground, affording rich, dry feed through the summer until the green grass comes again in the winter. Alfalfa does well where it can be irrigated.

Wheat, rye and barley are grown to perfection. The wheat lands are extensive. In fact, Ventura county has the best and most extensive wheat lands of any other in Southern California.

Vegetables of all kinds luxuriate in this soil under the genial sunshine; no disease in the root crops.

The semi-tropical fruits will all flourish here. The orange, the lemon, lime, date fig, pomegranate and English walnut all mature and are profitable. Besides the above, the apple, pear, peach and apricot do well, the trees in a single season making remarkable growth. The small fruits, the strawberry, the blackberry, etc., seem perfectly at home, and bear prodigiously throughout a great portion of the season.

The first gold ever discovered in this State was found in this county, about thirty-five miles from San Buenaventura, in what is now known as the Felician mines. The gold shows well in both the placer and quartz diggings. A great mountain of almost pure sulphur exists in the county. A heavy ledge of gypsum has been discovered in the Ojai valley; also a vein of potters' clay near the beach. Heavy deposits of asphaltum exist along the small streams It is used for roofing, and great quantities are reduced and shipped to San Francisco. The asphaltum beds are mines of wealth, which, when transportation is easier will be worked to their full capacity. There are also good cinnibar croppings.

No place in the State affords better facilities or inducements to manufacture than does San Buenaventura. Wood and crude petroleum or asphaltum are abundant, easy of access, and cheap. Wood $5 per cord; water with any fall desired can be obtained. Land can be had very cheap. The market for nearly everything that might be manufactured is at the door.

Stockraising has, to all who have engaged in it

from the primitive days when tallow was the only article of export, proved a porfitable business. Southern California is the sheep-raisers' paradise. Hundreds of thousands of sheep graze upon the foot-hills and valley lands, and there is room for thousands more.

There is no better locality for butter and cheese making than in this cool, dry climate.

Common laborers get $2 per day; mechanics, from $3 50 to $5; farm hands $30 per month.

Good, improved farms can be bought for from $20 to $35 per acre. Choice improved suburban residences of course range higher. Grazing land can be had at from $2 to $5 per acre

New school houses throughout the county are rapidly being built.

Game of all kinds, from the grizzly bear to the quail and snipe, is abundant.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Is bounded by San Luis Obispo county on the north, by Ventura county on the east, and by the ocean on the south and west. It has a branch of the coast range of mountains running through it, terminating at Point Conception, the southwest point of the coast of California. This county possesses a fair portion of the finest land in the country, capable of producing everything that can be raised in any portion of the State. Along the southern coast, east from Point Conception, there is a strip of land a few miles in width that, being protected by the mountains from northern breezes is almost tropicpal in character. Fruits peculiar *to the tropics* are grown in great abundance.

The Santa Cruz river traverses the county from eest to west, emptying into the ocean at Jesus Maria, in the county. There are many other small streams that are of great value to the inhabitants. The valley of Santa Cruz is very beautiful and fertile, and the same may be said of scores of valleys, of greater or less dimensions scattered through the mountains and hills to be found in this county.

The inducements to settlers are so great that, the past few years, the population has increased largely, and in a brief period, most of the cheap lands will be appropriated; but it still offers inducements which will soon be embraced by those who desire a home in one of the pleasantest climates and most productive and beautiful sections of this inviting portion of the wide world. In addition to its other riches, it possesses several quicksilver mines, which are said to be as rich as any in the State; some of them are to be found within ten miles of the city of Santa Barbara, and so situated as to be worked to advantage.

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

Is bounded east by Kern County, south by Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, west by the Pacific Ocean, and north by Monterey County. It contains one and a-half millions of acres, a large portion of which is mountainous, the coast range running through its whole length.

The agricultural region is situate west of the coast range proper, and extends from San Simeon in the north to the Arroya Grande in the south, a

distance of about fifty-two miles in length, with an average width of four miles. The northern portion is somewhat rolling, and intersected by narrow valleys, running from the coast range to the sea; but as we approach Moro Bay and the town of San Luis Obispo, coming south, the country opens out into wide valleys, such as those of the Chorr, Los Ossos, Laguna, and the Corral de Piedras—containing soil of unsurpassed richness, which yields from 90 to 100 bushels of barley to the acre, 50 to 60 of wheat, and 70 to 80 of corn.

This entire section, from San Simeon to the Arroya Grande, is indisputably the best watered portion of California. In every ravine and gulch are found never-failing streams of water, many of which, if traced to their source, will be found gushing out within thirty or forty feet from the highest coast range summits, a thousand feet above the sea level.

The Salinas River rises in the mountains of this county, running northerly, through a fine valley containing some of the best land in the State. There are numerous valleys in the mountains, which are suitable for cultivation, and many places where large tracts can be irrigated at a small expense, and made to produce grain, grass, fruits, and vegetables of all kinds in the greatest abundance and perfection. At present this part of the State is thinly peopled, and much good land can be obtained at a moderate price; but in a few years, it will be difficult to buy it at any reasonable rate.

Recent investigations have proved that very

rich quicksilver mines exist in this county; several of these have been opened, and samples of ore taken out that give promise of yielding rich returns to their proprietors. The San Simeon District, is but a few miles from the village of that name, located on San Simeon Bay, and should the mines here prove rich as is believed, they can be worked to great advantage, on account of their favorable situation. A dozen other veins are to be found in the county, all of which are believed to be valuable.

MONTEREY COUNTY

Lies northerly of San Luis Obispo County, west of Fresno and San Benito south of Santa Clara Counties, and east of the Pacific Ocean. It is nearly eighty miles long, about fifty miles wide, and contains nearly two millions of acres of which more than one-third is suited for cultivation; while the balance, being mountains, furnishes abundance of pasturage.

A large portion of the land is held under the Mexican grants, and little encouragement has been given to persons desirous of procuring small farms for agricultural purposes.

[The last session of the Legislature created a new county called San Benito, out of the northeast portion of Monterey, which will be described hereafter.]

From the Assessor's report, which includes San Benito, as well as Monterey county, dated December 31st, 1873, we learn that the increase in the area of wheat land sown in 1873 over that of 1872, was

11,200 acres, and this may be taken as a fair standard by which to judge of the increase of population and the advancement of all other interests in the county. The area of land inclosed, 354,640 acres, is by no means an approximate of the arable lands in this county capable of yielding abundant harvests of varied productions. A stranger to this section, who critically examines the report, would judge that the non-appearance of a single saw-mill indicated the entire absence of forests suitable for lumber, but the slopes of the different mountain ranges, especially the range below Monterey, are abundantly supplied with vast forests of redwood and pine, inferior to none in the State, their remoteness and present inaccessibility has prevented them from being utilized, and lumber for building and fencing purposes has been brought from the forests in counties to the north of this; the expense of transportation necessarily increasing the value to such an extent that scarcely one-third of 1,000,000 acres of land adapted to agriculture have been enclosed, and but litile more than one-half of this has been cultivated. The value of these forests will be made apparent in a few years, when those of Santa Cruz, Mendocino, and other sections are denuded, then the lumber business is destined to become a leading branch of industry here.

The same report shows that Monterey is a superior grazing county, second to none in the State, and within a few years has grown to be the third in rank in dairy productions, and will soon outstrip all others.

Other authorities say there is no fruit, tropical or other kind, that will not thrive in some portions of this county. The warm belt that skirts for a certain space, varying from one-half to one mile in width, our mountain ranges, is free from frosts, and produces the orange, lemon, fig, banana, and olive in all their tropical luxuriance, while the vine on the same mountain side flourishes and produces in such exuberance as to astonish viniculturists reared in the most productive vine countries in Europe.

It is well known that many veins of the precious metals are to be found in this county, such as silver and gold, as well as copper, quicksilver and lead; which may hereafter be worked to advantage. Asphaltum, marble and other valuable articles are found within its boundaries, and, in due time will add to its wealth.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Is comparatively small, containing but 320,000 acres; is bounded on the north by San Mateo, east by Santa Clara county, west by the ocean, and south by Monterey County. Its climate is modified by the sea breezes, the moisture of which prevents the fatal effects of the drouths that often nearly destroy the crops in the rich valleys of the interior. The climate is claimed by its inhabitants to be the most healthy and pleasant to be found in the State, and aside from this they assert that the rain fall is always in sufficient quantity to insure good crops.

The Santa Cruz *Sentinel* says:

So superior is the soil of Santa Cruz county, that the average production of wheat and barley is two thirds more bushels per acre than that produced from soil of a similar character in the interior, nor do drouths and excessive heat prevent a thorough maturing of the crops.

Fifty bushels of wheat and sixty-five bushels of barley is but a fair average yield for good grain land in this county. When crops in the interior and southern portions of the State are total failure Santa Cruz has its thousands of centals to expor at fabulous prices.

And we say to all those who are going up and down the length and breadth of California in search of home, just reserve Santa Cruz as the last point of investigation, for 'tis here you can find all that is desirable in all the rest without the first objectionable feature. We have no drouths, no failure in crops, no cold, nor extreme heat, no sickness—for the sea-breeze sweeps away every malarious tendency—ample timber, extensive water privileges, and many other advantages and facilities that tend to build manufactories in conjunction with extensive agricultural operations throughout the county."

The mineral resources of the county are scarcely, if at all, less than its agricultural wealth. It has valuable coal mines located but eight miles from Soquel Landing, on Monterey Bay, with an easy grade for a railway. There are other mines supposed to be valuable, not far enough developed to determine that fact satisfactorily. The limestone quarries near the town of Santa Cruz, have been

worked for over twenty years, and been a source of wealth to their proprietors. The lime produced is of the finest quality, and finds a ready sale in San Francisco and other places.

Santa Cruz county has large forests of redwood, from which large quantities of timber of the best kind are produced.

It is believed this county is destined to become the most densely populated district of this coast, possessing as it does the advantages of a superior market, from which a steamer can make San Francisco in a very few hours. Added to these fine shipping facilities is the advantage of a competing railroad, conducing to low fares and cheap freights.

SAN MATEO COUNTY.

With the exception of San Francisco, this is much the smallest county in the State, containing but little over 150,000 acres. It is bounded north by San Francisco county, east by the bay of the same name, south by Santa Cruz and Santa Clara counties, and west by the Pacific Ocean.

A large portion of the county is adapted to cultivation, and produces wheat, oats and barley equal to any part of the Coast. Potatoes of the finest quality are raised in large quantities.

The range of mountains that run through the centre of the county furnishes many rich valleys, where all sorts of grains, fruits and vegetables are raised with great facility, and the surrounding mountains furnish abundant pasturage for the cows of the dairymen who have located themselves

there. These mountains furnish also abundant firewood for family use, as well as much excellent timber, which is being fast used up by the numerous saw and shingle mills found in the timber region. It is estimated that 142,0000,000 feet of sawed timber, and 47,000,000 of shingles will be furnished by these mills the present year.

San Mateo County lying by the side of the commercial capital of the Pacific, with a climate unsurpassed for health, and a soil equal to the best, is a favorite residence for many of the wealthiest citizens of San Francisco, who have built themselves residences there, vieing with the abodes of the richest capitalists of other countries. Nearly all the land is under fence, and most of it, suitable for cultivation,has been appropriated for that use. The price at which it is sold, is probably greater than in any other county in the State, for land of equal quality. Still it offers many opportunities to those who know how to avail themselves of the chances that always offer to such persons, sooner or later.

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY.

Has the Bay of San Francisco on the east, on the south, the County of San Mateo, on the west, the Pacific Ocean, and on the north, the Golden Gate and bay above named. It is about ten miles in length and four in breadth, with an area of some 26,000 acres. As the city and county are identical, the whole will be more particularly described in a separate chapter, devoted to the commercial capital of the Pacific Coast.

MARIN COUNTY

Is bounded by Sonoma County on the north, by the Bay of San Francisco on the east, by the same bay and the ocean on the south, and by the Pacific on the west. It contains nearly 600 square miles, and almost 400,000 acres, most of which is enclosed though but a small portion is under cultivation, while most of the balance is used for pasturage. Some thousands of acres are covered with timber, much of it capable of being made into lumber.

No where is to be found better grazing land, and being within a few miles of San Francisco, dairymen have peculiar advantages, that make their business more profitable than it would be in other places. The Point of Reyes ranch, of 75,000 acres, is all owned by one firm, on which they pasture several thousand cows, which are divided into dairies of convenient size, the whole producing nearly a million of pounds of the finest butter annually. Other parties own dairies of several hundred cows, and make butter, and cheese that is celebrated for its excellence wherever it has been sold. Cattle do not require to be housed in the winter, or fed with anything the native pastures do not afford. Those who, in times past, have entered the Golden Gate in the winter, will recollect the beautiful green hills on the north side of the entrance to the bay, and will not need to be assured that cattle can find abundant food where such sights are seen at that season of the year.

Most of the county was originally covered with Spanish and Mexican grants, but these have been sold and sub-divided until now the land is nearly all owned by other parties, who are making improvements not thought of by their predecessors. A narrow-gauge railroad is being built, running from Saucelito, directly opposite, and but a short distance from San Francisco, to San Rafael, the county seat, and so on, up the Coast—to Oregon it may be, in due time. This will be of great value to the county, and cause people to flock to its pleasant shores and villages in great numbers from the Bay City, as it offers advantages hardly to be found in other localities in the vicinity of the commercial capital of the Coast.

SONOMA COUNTY.

Is bounded north by Mendocino and Lake counties, on the east by Lake and Napa counties, on the south and southwest by Marin county, and west by the Ocean. Sonoma county is nearly fifty miles long, and from twenty to thirty miles wide, containing nearly 850,000 acres, of which over one half is enclosed, and a large part of this under cultivation. The northern portion of the county is mountainous, Pine mountain reaching an elevation of 3,500 feet, and Sulphur Peak nearly the same. Some of the mountains furnish redwood, pine, spruce and fir for timber, and several kinds of wood for fuel, fencing and other uses.

This county, like Marin, is largely appropriated to the dairy business, for which it is equally well adapted. The first cheese-factory on the Coast

has recently been put in operation a mile and a half from Petaluma, the largest town in the county. Its capacity is said to be equal to making 15,000 pounds of cheese per day, and furnishes a market for all the milk that can be procured from a circuit of two or three miles.

Santa Rosa and Healdsburg, situated in this county, are large and prosperous towns. The first has two colleges located there, and both are flourishing. It is the county seat, and situated in a rich and productive country, it cannot fail of being prosperous. Healdsburg is pleasantly situated in the Russian River Valley, has the trade of a large surrounding country, and, with its natural advantages and the enterprise of its inhabitants, promises to be a manufacturing city of no mean consequence.

There are valuable quicksilver mines in the northeastern portion of this extensive county. From the mines in Pine Flat, shipments are made daily, and it is believed that the product of the district will reach six hundred flasks a month within the year. Good roads are being opened, which will greatly facilitate the operations of the miners when completed.

There is little or no vacant land, meaning unclaimed land, in this county. There is much unimproved, which can be purchased for from $8 to $20 per acre. This is mostly hill land, suitable for grazing, with some small valleys, adapted for grain, corn, and fruit culture. All the hill land in Sonoma, except that immediately on the Coast, is adapted to the growth of the grape; where not too

steep to cultivate, grape culture will ultimately be a leading interest of Sonoma County.

Improved land in the valleys sells for from $35 *to* $100 per acre. Farms usually rent for one-third of the crop, the renter furnishing everything.

The celebrated Geyser springs are in the north-eastern portion of the county, and are a great natural curiosity, as well as beneficial to invalids, afflicted with various diseases.

MENDOCINO COUNTY

Is bounded north by Humboldt, east by Colusa and Lake counties, south by Sonoma county, and on the west by the Ocean. It is eighty miles long and forty broad, with an area of two millions of acres, one half of which is available for cultivation. It is well watered by streams emptying into the Ocean, and lying on the Coast, and being favored with a larger and more regular supply of rain, cereals, and especially Indian corn, are a more certain crop than in the more southern portions of the State.

As a dairy and cattle raising county it is not to be surpassed. In the immediate vicinity of the Coast, there is an almost inexhaustible supply of timber suitable for lumber, and there are numerous saw-mills, where planks, boards, shingles and timber of all kinds are being manufactured in immense quantities for the San Francisco market.

There are two Indian reservations set apart by the United States authorities for the residence of the Indians. Late reliable accounts show that great advances have been made in improving the

condition of these natives of the forest, and that they are fast becoming peaceable and industrious under the care of the agents who have them in charge.

Ukiah City, the county seat, lies in a fine valley of the same name; is a thriving town, and is daily becoming a more and more desirable place of residence.

Potter Valley lies in this county, and is one of the richest sections in the State. It is seven miles long and from two to three miles wide, with every foot under good, substantial fence, and the fences creep up the mountain side, and in places reach their summit, two miles from the valley.

Gold and copper mines have been discovered in this county, but have not been worked sufficiently to prove their value. But without depending on minerals at all, this must, with its agricultural resources and its forests of fine timber, be one of the richest portions of the State.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY.

Klamath county, which bounded Humboldt county on the north, was disincorporated by the Legislature at its last session, and all that portion of Klamath that was bounded by the Ocean on the west added to Humboldt county, which is now bounded by Del Norte and Siskiyou on the north, by Siskiyou and Trinity on the east, by Mendocino on the south, and by the Pacific on the west. It has a coast line of nearly a hundred miles, and is about fifty miles wide, with an area of nearly

3,000,000 acres, of which only one third is adapted to cultivation or pasturage.

It has immense forests of spruce, pine, and redwood, a large portion lying convenient for transportation by sea.

Humboldt Bay is wholly within the county, is thirteen miles long and over four miles wide; it has several flourishing town, on its shores that carry on a very large trade in lumber and the other productions of the county. Klamath, Salmon, Redwood and Eel rivers run through and discharge their waters into the ocean on the western shore of this county.

Within the limits of Humboldt county every variety of soil is found. The lands in the vicinity of the bay and its various inlets, and in the valleys of the Eel river and Salt river, and the islands, give a large surface of country which is perhaps as rich as any other body of land in the State. Much of the soil in these bottoms is a rich black loam deposit—in some places, for a great extent, not even a pebble can be found. This soil is several feet deep, beneath which, to the depth of several feet, is a sandy loam. The fertility and durability of this description of land may be estimated from the fact that it has, on Salt river, yielded, during twelve years of successive cultivation, without the aid of manure of any kind, from six to eight hundred bushels of potatoes to the acre. The lands are adapted to all the various productions of the temperate zone, and from their rich, deep soil, yield with less labor, in much greater abundance than any other portion of the State.

As to lumber, one must see the trees to realize the magnitude of the redwoods. A man in Humboldt county got out of one tree lumber enough to make his house and barn, and to fence two acres of ground. A schooner was filled with shingles made from a single tree.

Humboldt county is so extensive that it furnishes, in its various localities, inducements of all kinds to settlers; and has in many places, Government lands in almost unlimited quantities.

DEL NORTE COUNTY

Is situated in the northwest corner of the State, is bounded on the north by the Oregon State line, on the east by Siskiyou county, on the south by Siskiyou and Humboldt counties, and on the west by the Pacific Ocean, is some fifty miles long, has an average breadth of about thirty miles, with an area of nearly a million of acres. The county has several rivers running through it; has abundance of fine timber, and plenty of good land in its valleys; copper mines near Crescent city, its principal town and harbor; as well as gold placers and mines in the mountains, which promise rich returns when increased facilities for carrying the machinery and provisions required for their working shall be provided for by good roads, and settlements in the many valleys they must pass through. There have been large expenditures made for ditches to convey water to the mines, which have well repaid the labor and capital employed.

The land, where suited for cultivation, yields

large crops of grain and other productions required for the use of man.

The county contains many fertile valleys and rich prairies, as well as several thousand acres of swamp and overflowed land, which it is believed may be made valuable. It is capable of maintaining a large population of farmers, dairymen, herdsmen, miners, and lumbermen, and can hardly fail of becoming a rich county, when but a small portion of its great resources are developed.

NORTHERN INTERIOR COUNTIES.

THEIR SITUATION AND PRODUCTIONS.

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SISKIYOU COUNTY

Is a large county, extending from Del Norte and Humboldt that bound it on the west, to the Nevada State line on the east, a distance of one hundred and eighty miles; and from the Oregon State line on the north, to Lassen, Shasta, and Trinity Counties on the south, sixty miles. It has an area of nearly seven millions of acres, of which but a very small portion is suited to cultivation, probably not over a million of acres, while an equal area is covered with forests of valuable timber. In the eastern portion of the county are several large lakes, which occupy, together, some hundred thousand acres. Much of the county consists of rocky mountains, deep cañons, and high barren table lands. Mount Shasta lies in the south-western part of the county, and rises to an elevation of 14,440 feet. The Klamath Scott, and Pitt rivers are the largest streams running through the county. The finest lands for agriculture are to be found in Shasta, Scott, and Surprise Valleys, the latter lying in the north-east part of the State, the two former in the western. Scott's Valley is forty miles long, and seven wide, it contains a

large quantity of excellent land, most of which has been for many years occupied by settlers, and cultivated to advantage. Shasta Valley, on the Shasta River, one of the tributaries of the Klamath, is also a fine body of land. Surprise Valley is in the north-eastern portion of the county, as well as of the State, on the borders of, and partly in the State of Nevada. It is one of the finest valleys in the Sierra Nevadas, is surrounded by high mountains, and is plentifully watered by springs and brooks, and where uncultivated, is covered with a luxuriant growth of wild clover, and other natural grasses.

There is much valnable mining ground in this connty, and many rich quartz veins, on some of which mills have been erected and worked to advantage. Klamath and Scott's Rivers have furnished many river bed claims that have paid their proprietors richly; and no one doubts that there are still millions waiting the shovel and pick of the miners.

TRINITY COUNTY

Is bounded by Siskiyou on the north, by Shasta and Tehama on the east, by Mendocino on the south, and by Humboldt on the west. It is eighty miles long and thirty wide, and contains over two millions of acres, of which but a small portion is adapted to cultivation, most of which is found on the margins of the Salmon and Trinity Rivers and their tributaries. Almost the entire surface of the county is covered with mountains composed mainly of rocks of various kinds, and broken up

by deep gulches, so as to be nearly impassible by man. Wherever ground fitted for tillage is found, good crops of all kinds are raised, and fruit of the finest quality produced in great abundance.

Mining is, however, the great business of the county, and with the great number of rich placer, hydraulic claims, mines of gold-bearing quartz, cinnibar and other mines, now being worked with rich returns, and hundreds of others, supposed to be equally as rich, but not yet opened, as well as others believed to exist in the mountains, not yet prospected, this county is without question one in which the miner may reasonably hope to find the fortune which is the day-dream of those toil-worn adventurers.

SHASTA COUNTY

Has Siskiyou County on the north, Lassen on the east, Plumas and Tehama on the south, and Trinity on the west. It is about eighty miles from east to west, and fifty from north to south; with an area of over two and a-half millions of acres, a large part of which is mountainous. It is abundantly watered with rivers and mountain streams, on many of which are rich bottom lands and mountain meadows that produce bountifully all the cereals, vegetables and fruits suited to the climate. The temperature in winter is generally mild, seldom really cold, in summer not extremely warm, and in spring and autumn especially mild and pleasant. All the fruits of the north grow to great perfection, while the fig, almond, and many

other fruits of more southern climes, flourish in the open air.

A large part of the western and northern portion of the county is heavily timbered, large forests adorn the mountains, while groves of oak, ash and other woods, are found on the margin of the water courses.

Hot and boiling springs abound in the eastern part of the county; in one place a steam jet rising to a height of eight feet with a loud noise, in another is found a pond of hot water six hundred feet long, and half as wide, known as the "Boiling Lake." This section of the State cannot fail of attracting attention when the means of reaching it without too much expense and trouble are opened to the public. Shasta has been a rich mining locality, and still abounds in mines and placers of great value, which will repay the labor and capital expended, for very many years to come. It has many water ditches for the use of the miners, as well as numerous quartz mills for working the rich ores found in many parts of the county.

It is almost a State in itself, so varied and rich are its productions; and when filled; as it must be, with an industrious and enterprising people, it will be as nearly independent of other places as is good for any people, and far more than those living in most States can be.

LASSEN COUNTY

Is bounded by Siskiyou county on the north, by the State line of Nevada on the east, by Seirra and Plumas counties on the south, and by Plumas and

Shasta on the west. It is of an irregular shape, with an average length of some sixty miles, and breadth of fifty; it contains nearly two millions of acres, much the larger portion of which is of but little value. Alkali flats, sage plains, and rough mountains, in about equal quantities cover most of the county. Lying on the east side of the Sierra Nevadas, and constituting a portion of the interior basin of the continent, it partakes of its character.

There are many exceptions to this general description of the county, as it contains some large and fertile valleys, which produce in abundance wheat, barley, oats, vegetables, and fruits, by the aid of irrigation, for which nature has furnished great facilites. This county contains two lakes — Honey Lake in its southern part, and Eagle Lake near its center. The first is irregular in shape, and shallow; the latter equally irregular, and with no gaeat depth of water. From the honey dew found on the vegetation by its shores, Honey Lake derived its name. The Indians gather this honey, of which they are very fond, and use it in place of molasses.

Long Valley in this county is forty miles long, and is a splendid stock country, as it produces various kinds of native grasses, on which stock thrives and does well.

Hot springs are found in several parts of the county; one near Honey Lake is twelve feet across, with a jet leaping several feet in the air, and of great depth.

Several silver mines have been opened, which

are said to be valuable. It is belived that much mineral wealth will be found in this county, and in due time, with better roads and other facilities, will be worked to advantage.

PLUMAS COUNTY.

Plumas county derives its name from the Spanish name of Feather River, the Rio de los Plumas. It is bounded on the north by Lassen and Shasta counties, on the east by Lassen, on the south by Sierra and Yuba counties, and on the west by Butte and Tehama counties. It is over eighty miles long, and about forty-five broad; irregular in shape. It contains nearly one and a half millions of acres, a large part of which is of a mountainous character. It is well watered, and equally well wooded, has very many rich placer, gravel and quartz mines, and also many fertile valleys and natural meadows well suited for the farmer and stock-raiser. The American, Humbug, Indian, Mountain, Big Meadows, and several other valleys, are situated in the northeastern part of the county, are very fertile, and produce good crops of grain, fruit and vegetables, as well as grass, in areat abundance.

The great interest of the county is in the mines found in its hills, mountains, gulches, river beds and banks. Quarts mills are numerous in various parts of the county, and some of them have for years paid large dividends to their proprietors. A miner whose claim is on the mountain south of Indian valley, with a hand mortar, has, within a short time, pounded out some $18,000—so says the

National of May 16th. At Gopher Hill $1,700 was cleaned up from a nine days' run with one hydraulic pipe. On Badger Hill, after an eight days' run, $1,165 was taken up. A large number of men are at work in the mines, and, with few exceptions, are doing well. Although high up in the mountains, and with a heavy fall of snow in the winter, the climate is not severe, while in the valleys the snow fall is light, and cattle require to be housed but a comparatively small portion of the season.

Plumas offers many inducements to farmers, as well as miners, as the latter furnish a home market for the productions of the former, and the many fine valleys are suited to make pleasant homes for the families of both. A few years will find most of these locations occupied with a prosperous people.

BUTTE COUNTY

Derives its name from the "Buttes" a name given to isolated peaks of mountains, of which a group lies near by its southern limits. It has Plumas county on the southeast, Sutter on the south, Colusa on the west, and Tehama on the northeast, and is some sixty miles long and thirty-five wide, and has an area of nearly a million of acres, of which nearly one-half lies in the Sacramento rives and the Feather river valleys.

Most of the valley land is enclosed, of which a large portion is under cultivation, and yields immense crops to its proprietors. In 1871, from the report of the Surveyor General, it appears that

this county produced 902,720 bushels of wheat on 46,636 acres, and 449,130 bushels of barley on, 19,-031 acres.

Butte county is equally valuable for grazing as for cultivation, situated as it is so far north as to have little to fear from drouth. It is as well adapted to the dairyman as to the agriculturist and stock-breeder.

Unlike most counties in the State, it is equally valuable for the rich mines found in its mountains and gulches as for its fertile plains. From the placers on the banks and in the bed of Feather river, which runs through the county, millions of gold have been extracted, and from gravel and quartz mines, as well as the placers, immense quantities of gold, are still obtained. A large portion of the county is known as mineral land, and it is believed that but a small portion of the valuable mines have yet been discovered; and that fortunes for thousands are awaiting the pick and shovel of the enterprising and industrious miner who, by his good strong arms, shall uncover the treasure deposited there for his use.

TEHAMA COUNTY

Has Shasta county on the north, Plumas and Butte on the east, Butte and Colusa on the south, and on the west Mendocino and Trinity counties. It is over seventy miles long from east to west, and about forty miles wide, and has an area of nearly two millions of acres. It has the coast range of mountains lying on its western boundary,

and the eastern extends into the forests and mountains of the Sierra Nevadas.

It is valuable as a stock-raising and agricultural county. Lying on both sides of the Sacramento river, it contains a large quantity of the rich bottom lands situated on its margin, and on the borders of the tributaries that empty into that stream. No better grain land can be found in the State, a considerable portion of which is under cultivation, producing wheat and other grains equal in quantity and quality to any sent to market in California.

Indian corn is largely grown and yields well in this county. Many vineyards have been planted, which are now bearing grapes of the best kinds in great perfection and abundance. All the northern fruits grow here, and many that are supposed to be confined to more southern climes.

There is plenty of room in this county for settlers, with good, cheap lands waiting to reward their indnstry. Stock and sheep raising is one of the great interests here, and is carried on to great advantage, no part of the State furnishing more reliable or finer pasturage, nearly the entire year.

Rich copper ores have been discovered and partially worked, in the northeast portion of the county. Both gold and silver have also been found in the spurs of the mountain ranges that run through that portion of the State, and there is good reason to believe that many of these mines will prove valuable when fully developed.

The vineyards of Henry Gerke are located in

this county, are very extensive, and the wines made by him are obtaining a reputation, not only in this State, but in the Atlantic States, Great Britain, and other countries.

COLUSA COUNTY

Is bounded north by Tehama county, east by Butte and Sutter, south by Yolo, and west by Lake and Mendocino counties. It is over fifty five miles long, from north to south, and fifty miles wide from east to west, has an area of over a million and a half of acres, of which a portion lies in the coast rage of mountains, and which is gene ally unsuited for cultivation, but where not covered with timber, affording excellent pasturage. This is one of the great grain growing counties of the State. In 1873 the Surveyor General's report to the Legislature states the yield of wheat for 1872 to be three millions of bushels raised on 150,000 acres of land, and 220,000 bushels of barley on 10,000 acres. In 1873 the number of acres assessed was 830,000, the average value of which was $5 68 per acre.

All kinds of stock are raised to advantage in this county. Horses, cattle, sheep and hogs are all sources of profit, that require far less attention than most of the occupations of the proprietors of land.

Like the other portions of the State, Colusa produces vegetables and fruits equal to the best the world affords, and with the least possible labor and expense.

Mines of quicksilver and copper are found in the

foot hills of the coast range, in the western part of the county; and sulphur beds of large masses of the native mineral are found some thirty miles west of Colusa, the county seat, on the bank of the Sacramento river.

With such an abundance of fine land to be had at so cheap a rate and much of it so convenient to market, it is really surprising that its population, which in 1870 was but 6,165, does not increase with greater rapidity, yet almost every county in the State presents equal advantages. A county capable of sustaining a million of souls with but a little over six thousand, offers inducements which must bring settlers when fairly known in other lands.

LAKE COUNTY

Has Colusa county on its northerly and east side, Yolo on the south, Sonoma and Mendocino on the west and northwest. It is nearly sixty miles from north to south, and bnt little over fifty from east to west, with an area of of some 600,000 acres. It is almost surrounded with mountains, branches of the Coast range running on either side, enclosing Clear Lake and the valleys on its borders, nearly in the middle of the county. The lake covers one quarter of its surface, is twenty-five miles in length, and from two to ten miles in breadth, and has an outlet through Cache creek into the Sacramento river, sixty miles distant. The waters of the lake are full of fish, and are deep, clear and cool at all seasons. Borax Lake is near Clear Lake, and furnishes large quantities of borax, which is obtained from the water and the mud at its bottom,

by the refining processes required. Large quantities of sulpur are found near the hot springs on the shores of the lake, of which considerable quantities have been refined and used by the gun-powder, match factories, and chemical works of the Pacific Coast.

Big Valley, lying west of the northern portion of the lake, contains some fine land, it is well watered, has plenty of wood, and produces grain, fruit, and vegetables equal to the best. The mountains on the east side of the lake are broken, and numerous valleys, through which brooks flow, have on their banks many natural meadows.

The Lakeport *Bee* of recent date says:

"There are few portions of our State—abounding as it does with every variety of scenery and unrivalled wonders of nature—that combines so large and varied attractions to the visitor and tourist from abroad as our own county. Our people, grown familiar by daily contact with the beautiful scenery and other attractions which surround them on every hand, do not appreciate these varied gifts of nature as fully as their merits deserve.

"The invalid in search of health can no where find more effectual remedies for all 'the ills that flesh is heir to' than is to be found in our mineral springs, distilled in natures own laboratory. Every variety of mineral waters—sulphur, soda, salt, magnesia and the chalybeate, of which the strengthening and tonic properties of the combination of iron form the base—are to be found within the area of Lake County and within convenient access to the health seeking invalid.

SUTTER COUNTY.

This county is bounded by Butte on the north, by Yuba and Placer on the east, by Yolo and Sacramento on the south, and by Yolo and Colusa counties on the west. It is forty miles from north to south, and but fifteen wide, containing less than 400,000 acres; it is one of the most productive counties in the State.

Situated between the Sacramento and Feather rivers, it is mainly rich bottom lands, and produces, under cultivation, crops of cereals equal to any portion of the Golden State. In 1873 from the Surveyor General's report, it appears these was raised in 1872 nearly 900,000 bushels of wheat, the population in 1870 being but 5,030—equal, probably, to 150 bushels for every man, woman and child of the increased population for the two years since the census was taken. Large crops of barley, oats and Indian corn are produced in this county. Figs, oranges, olives and almonds grow and ripen in the open air in the genial climate of Sutter County,

The scarcity of wood is felt as a want to be supplied by planting trees—which will quickly become large enough to afford what is required; and it is found that the Australian gum tree, if planted in sufficient numbers, will in a few years give all that is needed for fuel, and even timber in a few years more, and be almost invaluable to a county like this.

YUBA COUNTY

Has Butte County on the north-west, Sierra and Nevada on the east, Nevada, Placer, and Sutter on the south, and Sutter on the west. It is irregular in shape, nearly sixty miles in extreme length, from north to south, and with an average width of less than twenty miles. It has an area of some 600,000 acres, as much diversified as possible in character. It has rivers with fertile valleys lying on their banks, foot-hills, and mountain spurs rich in gold. As a stock county it is equally valuable as for its agricultural and mineral capabilities. The Marysville *Appeal* of a late date says of that central portion of the county:

"This vicinity offers great inducements for small farmers. Hereabouts in every direction are immense tracts of the best lands, which never fail of producing large crops in the dryest seasons. The proprietors of these lands are offering great bargains to new settlers. Farms can be had at low figures and on reasonable terms. With railroads and river facilities to transport our products to market, where can the young and energetic farmer find a more favorable locality to seek a home and a fortune? Persons from the East seeking homes within the borders of our State, either as manufacturers, mechanics or farmers, are giving this section of California the preference. There are other localities, perhaps, where with large capital people may live more at ease, but the valleys, of Northern California afford the field for acquiring *rapid wealth* by industry and patient labor."

The Briggs orchard near Marysville is celebrated as one of the finest in the State. It covers 420 acres, contains 8,000 Peach trees various kinds, Apricots, 3,000 trees, all bearing; Cherries, 4,000 trees; Plums, 7,000 trees; Apples, the 2,000 apple trees of eight varieties; Pears, 1,000 pear trees mostly Bartletts; there are 1,000 cherry-plum trees; June plums, 150 trees. The proprietor has also growing 1,500 walnut trees, of three varieties.

The northeast portion of the county is a very productive mining section. Sluicing, hydraulic, and quartz mining have all been carried on profitably, and still yield fair returns for the capital and labor invested. Water ditches and canals have been built in many places to supply water for sluicing, hydraulic, and quartz mills, and millions have been realized by those engaged in these operations. The Blue Gravel Claim, at Smartsville, has been one of the richest in the State, and it is believed other mines exist in the county, that will be found hereafter, equally valuable.

SIERRA COUNTY

Is bounded by Plumas County on the north, the State of Nevada on the east, Nevada County on the south, and Plumas and Yuba on the west. It is fifty miles long from east to west, and twenty miles from north to south, and has an area of about 600,000 acres of ground, most of it rough and mountainous. It has very little ground fit for cultivation, but this is compensated by its hundreds of gold placers, gravel and quartz mines, which are so numerous that to give all their names

would occupy too much space in this condensed account of the county.

The *Mountain Messenger* published at Downieville, the county seat, recently said:

"In taking a retrospective view of mining in Sierra County, we can come to but one conclusion —that this industry in this, and our neighboring county of Plumas, is assuming a more flattering aspect than could reasonably have been predicted by the most sanguine a few years since."

That paper goes on to state that the celebrated "Bald Mountain" Company's gravel mine at Forest City, and Baker's mine at Gardner's Point, are now paying dividends.

Monte Christo, Eureka, Morristown, Brandy City, Poverty Hill, Fair Play, Spring Valley, Spanish Flat, Sierra, Butler, Pine Grove, Granite Hill, Howland Flat, Potosi, Whiskey Diggings, Slate Creek, Pilot Peak, Gibsonville, Gibson Creek, Grass Flat, Port Wine, and scores of other places, all contain valuable mines, and are being worked with great profit. The papers published in that county are full of accounts of rich strikes. The *Mountain Messenger*, June 13, says:

"This seems to be a year for 'strikes' in mining in this section. First the Oak Ranch Co. found a fine body of rich pay gravel; the York Bros. commenced taking out gold in large quantities, and now Thatcher & Co. have struck it rich. The boys in the State Castle have been making a good thing, having taken out $300 in one week. The American Hill Co.'s ground is paying exceedingly *well.* Alexander & Co., near Deadwood, have

good diggings, recently discovered, and the Grizzly boys are taking out good pay.

This county is so high up in the mountains, that while fruit and vegetables are raised without difficulty, but little grain is sown, and the grazing is confined to a few small valley on the banks of the rivers.

NEVADA COUNTY

Is situated on the east of Yuba County, south of Yuba and and Sierra Counties, west of the State of Nevada, and north of Placer County. Its extreme length is over sixty miles, while its average breadth is but fifteen, and has an area of about 700,000 acres. Its eastern extremity lies on the east side of the Sierra Nevadas, that chain of mountains crossing the county, and dividing it into two almost distinctly separate portions. The western part of the county has considerable land suitable for cultivation, and fruit growing, as well as some fine grazing ranges; but it is more particularly noted for the rich mines found in the foot hills, and higher slopes of the Nevadas. All the various kinds of gold mines and placers are found in this county, some of which have, in times past, produced in an abundance that seemed almost incredible. Indeed they do at this time, yield a wonderful return for capital and labor in many cases. The Grass Valley *Foot Hill Tidings* recently informed us:

"One mine, the Idaho, during the year 1873 took out gold valued at $1,010,612.20, and paid in dividends, $682,000 to its stock-holders. In Grass

Valley Township alone, over 1,100 quartz mines are recorded, at least half of which indicate as well as the average of the dozen now being worked did when no more developed. It does not seem at all strange that old settlers here are strong in the faith that some day these five hundred mines will be worked, aud our population number as many thousands as it now does hundreds.

"A dozen quartz mines, employing a thousand men, turn out $250,000 a month and support a population of 7,000 souls."

The cement and quartz mines in other parts of the county are as valuable as those in Grass Vallep, and offer the greatest inducements to both labor and capital.

PLACER COUNTY

Is bounded by Yuba and Nevada Counties on the north, by the State of Nevada on the east, on the south by El Dorado and Sacramento, and on the west by Sutter and Nevada Counties. Nearly eighty miles from east to west, it is less than fifteen wide from north to south, and has an area of 1,500,000 acres, of which but a small portion is susceptible of cultivation. Its western boundary is on the edge of the great Sacramento Valley, in a semi-tropical climate, while proceeding northeast, and ascending the foot hills, and finally the summit of the Sierra Nevadas, the climate grows colder by degrees until it almost reaches the regions of eternal snow. Indeed Placer County has nearly every degree of cold or heat to be found in country.

As a mining county this has long been known as one of the richest districts in the State, containg all the several kinds of mines known, of which scores are worked to great profit. Quartz mills are numerous, and generally pay their owners large returns for the money invested. While not to any great extent, suited for farming purposes, there are hundreds of valleys in the foot hills that afford location for homes for those whose business in the mines precludes them from settling elsewhere.

Placer County offers good opportunities for labor, capital, and enterprize to be invested to advantage.

The beautiful Lake Tahoe lies in part on the eastern portion of the county.

MIDDLE INTERIOR COUNTIES.

HOW SITUATED, AND WHAT THEY PRODUCE.

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EL DORADO COUNTY.

This county is bounded, north by Placer, east by the State of Nevada and Alpine County, south by Alpine and Amador Counties, and by Sacramento and Placer on the west. It is sixty miles long from east to west, and thirty miles wide, containing about 1,250,000 of acres, made up, to a large extent, of hills, valleys, mountains, and gulches of all descriptions.

The discovery of gold in 1848 was made in this county; and it has, since that time, produced from its placers a good portion of the shining ore, that made the reputation of the Golden State so world-wide twenty odd years ago. Although the main range of the Nevadas runs across it, this county contains a large quantity of land suited to cultivation; of which much has been enclosed and tilled to good advontage. Grain of all kinds grows well, and the fruit raised is of the finest quality, and is produced in the greatest abundance. Coloma, the locality of the gold discovery, is celebrated as producing fruit that cannot be excelled in any part *of the State.*

Mining, however, is the principal source of wealth in this county, though the placers, which formerly produced immense profits, are to a great extent exhausted, and the transient population that worked them have gone elsewhere. Quartz mining is now the leading interest in the county, many of the mines paying largely. There are hundreds of quartz veins in the county not yet developed, which are beleived to be rich as any that are now being worked with large returns.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Has on the north, Sutter and Placer, on the east Eldorado and Amador, on the south, San Joaquin, and on the west Yolo and Solano counties. It is thirty-six miles long, and thirty miles wide, and contains nearly seven hundred thousand acres, mainly of level prairie land, a narrow belt of foot hills and rolling ground some seven miles wide, on its eastern border, being the only exception. It contains a large portion of ground adapted to grain raising, fruit growing, grazing and vegetables. On the margin of the Sacramento River there is a strip of rich tule marsh that when fully reclaimed will be equal to the richest gardens in fertility, and capable of producing the finest crops for ages, without aid from the usual fertilizers. It produces large quantities of grain of all kinds, fruits of nearly all the known varieties, including oranges, figs, and other semi-tropical productions.

It has over a million of grape vines, bearing the finest grapes of both native and imported varieties, from which, after supplying the market with

grapes for table use, large quantities of wine and raisins are made. Drying fruit for sale is likely to become an important branch of business, as no part of the State offers superior advantages for this lucrative occupation

Within half a mile of the Capitol building, in Sacramento City, the extensive Nurseries of ROBERT WILLIAMSON are located; and from which, trees of all the best kinds known, for early and successful fruit growing properties, are supplied in abundance to every part of the State. Mr. Williamson has perhaps done as much as any other man in California toward demonstrating the superiority of this State, as a fruit growing country.

Hop culture is extensively carried on in this county. Some large and valuable establishments being located near Sacramento city, among which may be mentioned that of WM. M. HAYNIE, who has conclusively shown the adaptability of the soil and climate to hop raising, and also that this business, when judiciously managed is highly lucrative.

Sacramento county, in addition to its aggricultural riches, has on its eastern side a mineral belt from which large sums were taken by the discoverers soon after the settlemeut of the country by the citizens of the United States. A notice of Sacramento, the Capital city of Califoruia, will be given in another portion of the work.

YOLO COUNTY

Is bounded north by Colusa County, east by Sutter and Sacramento counties, south by Solano and

Napa counties, and by Lake county on the west, contains over half a million of acres. Its northwestern portion is mountainous, but much the larger part of the county is well adapted to cultivation, while its eastern half is almost a dead level. It is strictly a farming county, producing in 1872 over a million and a half of bushels of wheat, and a quarter of a million bushels of barley; this year, it is estimated, will show a much larger production. Other grains grow equally well, such as oats, Indian corn, rye and buckwheat and are grown with profit. Fruits, including the orange, lemon, and olive, are raised here. Apples, peaches and pears are so plenty as to be of little value for want of a market. Grain has, to some extent, suffered from drouth occasionally, but this may be averted by irrigation that nature has furnished facilities for, that will be made available ere long.

Generally Yolo County offers many advantages to settlers in rich, level lands at moderate prices, proximate to river navigation and railroads, and so far occupied as to furnish schools and the other advantages of older communities.

NAPA COUNTY

Has Lake on the north, Solana and Yolo on the east, Solano on the south, and Sonoma on the west, is forty-five miles long, and fifteen broad, with an area of nearly half a million of acres, divided about equally between valley and rolling ground adapted to farming, and mountains and

deep valleys, which afford much timber and pasturage, but are too rough for other uses.

It contains some of the finest locations to be found in the State, as well as some of the richest land. It is a wine producing county, having over a million bearing grape vines, and producing a very large quantity of wine yearly. Bunches of grapes weighing over eight pounds have been gathered from what is known as the White Nice variety, and from other kinds bunches nearly as large.

All kinds of grain, fruits and vegetables flourish here and grow to great perfection. Napa county has also rich quicksilver mines in her hills and mountains which are beginning to yield rich returns to their proprietors, and seem likely to influence the market of that mineral by the large supply they will furnish in a short time. Gold and silver mines are also found here, which are believed to be valuable.

The celebrated Calistoga springs are in this county, as is also the "petrified forest" and many other curious and interesting objects. Its vicinity to the navigable waters and the railroads that intersect the county add greatly to the value of the land and make it desirable for its inhabitants. and its numerous schools and churches add still more to the great inducements it offers for those in want of homes.

SOLANO COUNTY

Has Yolo on the north, Yolo and Sacramento on the east, Contra Costa on the south, and on the

west Napa County. It is nearly square, about thirty miles from east to west and a trifle less from north to south, its area being over half a million of acres. It is, with the exception of a portion of its tule bottom, not yet reclaimed, valuable for farming and dairy purposes. The soil is rich, and especially so in the valleys and on the margins of the creeks, where it is deep, and almost inexhaustible.

Limestone is found near Benicia, from which excellent hydraulic cement is manufactured. Both quicksilver and coal have been discovered in this county, and the quicksilver mine has been so far opened as to give strong assurance of its being valuable.

The earliest apricots, peaches and grapes sold in San Francisco, come from the Valleys in this county.

California College is located at Vacaville, in this county, and is an institution of great promise. It will be fully described under the Educational department of this work.

It had a population, in 1870, of 16,871, which has, since that time, largely increased, as the many advantages it possesses naturally induce heads of families to give it a preference. The U. S. Navy Yard at Mare Island, and the city of Vallejo on the main land opposite, are within the limits of this county; they make a market for much of its produce, and add largely to its prosperity.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Is bounded north by the waters of San Pablo and

Suisun bays, on the eastern side by the San Joaquin River, on the south by Alameda county, and on the west by the Bay of San Francisao. It is nearly forty miles long from north to south, and over twenty miles wide from east to west, containing over half a million of acres, nearly one half of it suited to the uses of the farmer, dairyman, and stock grower. It has several ranges of hills and low mountains, among which is Monte Diablo, the highest, with numerous fine valleys scattered through them, that produce, when cultivated, with abundance.

The coal mines on the east slope of Monte Diablo furnish a large portion of the coal used by the numerous steamers employed in navigating the rivers and connected with San Francisco, as well as in the manufactories of the Bay City.

This is one of the great wheat counties in the State. In 1872 it raised nearly 2,000,000 bushels; this present year it will doubtless exceed that quantity. With its hills and valleys and plains, a variety of climate is to be had in Contra Costa County, as well as an almost infinite variety of soil and situation, to those who settle there.

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Is bounded by Sacramento on the north, by Amador, Calaveras and Stanislaus on the east, by Stanislaus on the south, andby Alameda and Contra Costa counties on the west. It is about forty miles long and thirty-five wide and has an area of nearly 900,000 acres, of which a very large portion can be cultivated.

It is one of the largest grain producing counties in the State, in 1872 having harvested a crop of over two and a half millions of bushels of wheat, and half a million bushels of barley. It contains a large amount of overflowed tule land, much of which has already been reclaimed, and the balance will be, as it is, and always must be, the most productive land in the State. When this is all under cultivation, it will add immensely to the wealth of the county.

Large quantities of fruit are grown here, and many persons have turned their attention to drying it for market, while others are engaged in making raisins of the grapes adapted to that use. Perhaps no part of the State offers greater inducements to emigrants than this, and it may fairly be predicted that its population will in a few years double that given by the census of 1870, of some 21,000 persons.

AMADOR COUNTY

Is over fifty miles in length, and less than twenty miles in average width, and has an area of some 500,000 acres. It is bounded north by El Dorado County, east by Alpine, south by Calaveras, and west by San Joaquin. It contains much good farming land, and the hills, mountains, and valleys afford pasturage of great value, at times when drouth almost destroys the grass on the plains in the great Central Valley of the State.

Amador County, however, is chiefly valuable for its mineral wealth; possessing, as it does, mines of gold, quicksilver, copper, and coal, many of

them equal in value to any in California. Placer mining is still carried on to a profit; and many places where quartz mining is extensively prosecuted, rich veins have been followed many hundred feet below ground, and repaid the labor and expense very largely. Mills for the reduction of ores are numerous, and pay their proprietors large returns. Water ditches have been dug at great expense to furnish water for hydraulic mining, where required. The coal and copper mines of Amador are, no doubt, destined to become a source of great wealth to the county. The Newton copper mine is being worked at a profit; and the coal mines near Ione City, proves to be capable of furnishing 500 tons of coal per day, for years to come. With a fair portion of land adapted to cultivation, and mines producing such a variety of valuable minerals, Amador County may be fairly classed as not the least desirable portion of the Golden State.

ALPINE COUNTY

Is so named from the high peaks of the Sierra Nevadas that raise their summits over 10,000 feet above the sea. It is bounded on the north by El Dorado County, on the east by the State of Nevada, on the south by Mono and Tuolumne, and on the west by Tuolumne, Calaveras, and Amador Counties. It is forty miles long from north to south, and nearly as wide from east to west, with an area of nearly 1,000,000 of acres. It lies on both sides as well as the summit of the mountains. It partakes of the characteristics of the mining

counties of California, and of those peculiar to the eastern slope of the mountains, and the great interior basin of the western portion of North America. The mountains contain small lakes, which are the sources of some of the valuable rivers that water the plains below, such as Stanislaus, Mokelumne, and others of less note. Numerous valleys are also found, which in summer, afford abundant pasture for the sheep and cattle which are driven up here from the dry plains below. But, while Alpine County offers few inducements in other respects, it presents great encouragement to the adventurous, hardy, and industrious miner. It contains mines of silver mixed with gold, of well ascertained value, that are not excelled by any similar mines in the State.

The mountains are covered with pine and spruce timber, and have in every gulch a stream of water leaping over its rough bottom, and forming natural water-power in hundreds of places that might be utilized, by erecting quartz mills, to reduce the rich ores so abundant in the vicinity.

CALAVERAS COUNTY.

This county is bounded by Amador and Alpine northerly, by Toulumne on its easterly side, and by Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties southerly and westerly. It is about forty miles long and twenty in width, with an area of some half a million of acres. Bear Mountain, a rocky wooded range, about two thousand feet high, runs across the county from north to south, dividing it into two sections, the western or lower section being

composed of foot-hills and low, rolling prairie lands, while the eastern or upper section is more rugged and broken, although containing some valleys and table lands that are susceptible of cultivation, and considerable hilly land that is peculiarly well adapted to horticultural purposes where irrigation is practicable.

West of the Bear Mountain range are extensive copper veins, some valuable quartz lodes, mines of iron and manganese, and quarries of slate of an excellent quality. The hills of this portion of the county are sparsely covered with oak trees, but it has no timber suitable for other purposes than for fuel. This region is also naturally arid. That portion of the county east of the Bear Mountain range has contained some of the richest placer diggings ever discovered in the State, and this kind of mining is still extensively carried on in several localities — hydraulic washing having taken the place of the original and primitive ways of prosecuting the work. There are also some very valuable quartz mines, and considerable attention is now being paid to the development of this important interest.

There are inexhaustible quarries of marble and limestone, and also valuable deposits of brown hematite iron ore in close proximity thereto.

In the more elevated portions of the county are extensive pine, cedar and redwood forests, capable of furnishing a lumber supply to a large population for generations to come. In this timber belt are situated the celebrated groves of the

"Washingtonia Gigantea," commonly known as the Big Trees of California..

In the vicinity of Vallecito considerable attention is being paid to agricultural and horticultural pursuits, and there are a number of fine vineyards where a superior quality of wine is produced. There are several good farms, and a large extent of grazing land.

This county is remarkably rich in resources, but many of them remain undeveloped for the reason that no effort has been made in that direction. As this region of country becomes more populous, and when capital for the inauguration of new industries can be readily obtained, this will become one of the most prosperous counties in California.

TUOLUMNE COUNTY

Has been one of the rich mining districts of the State. It is bounded by Alpine and Calaveras on the north, by Mono on the east, by Mariposa on the south, and by Stanislaus and Calaveras counties on the west, is sixty miles in length and thirty-five in breadth, containing over a million and a quarter acres, a large portion of it rough and mountainous. It is still rich in minerals, although its placer mines have been to a large extent exhausted and abandoned to the Chinese, who are content to labor for what is despised by white men. There are, however, many quartz mines that pay well, and the papers published in the county tell us weekly of large sums produced by the different mills, one of $3,354 for four

days' work, another of $453 from 38½ tons of ore. Of hydraulic mining they tell of $2,200 obtained; of $2,000 for fifteen days, and many other instances of good fortune occurring day after day.

There is plenty of good land still unoccupied in this county—land suitable for cultivation, and for fruit growing unsurpassed in excellence.

The large mining towns in the county bave lost many of their inhabitants, but the time is not far distant when the county will have a population greater than before, and beautiful homes will be found in her pleasant villages, towns, and valleys.

STANISLAUS COUNTY.

This large valley county is bonnded by San Joaquin county on the northwest, by Calaveras and Tuolumne on the northeast, by Merced on the southeast, and on the southwest by Santa Clara County. It is nearly fifty miles long, and some twenty-five broad, and has an area of nearly 800,000 acres, of which a large proportion lies in the San Joaquin Valley, and is well adapted to cultivation.

Grain is the great staple production of the county, it having produced, in 1872, 5,000,000 bushels of wheat, and in addition to this, harvested 800,000 bushels of barley, besides other grains in considerable quantities.

Butter and cheese making occupy many of the people, while sheep and cattle raising furnish profitable employment to others.

Wool growing is a large interest, the report of the State Surveyor in 1872 showing that there

were over 130,000 sheep in the county, the wool of which must have been well nigh a million of pounds, if the average product was to any extent equal to that in other counties in the State.

In the foot hills on the east side of the county, on the banks and in the beds of the Tuolumne and Stanislaus rivers, there were, in early days, rich mining claims; these are now nearly worked out, but it is quite possible there are many places equally valuable not yet discovered, that hereafter will prove fortunes to their lucky finders. On the western side of the county the Coast range of mountains encroach a few miles on the great plain; these mountains contain a few valleys suited to make homes for the herdsmen, who are the principal inhabitants of this section. Stanislaus, like the other counties lying in the valley of the San Joaquin, will be greatly benefited by the system of irrigation, which will be perfected in a few years, and make this a very garden of fruitfulness and wealth.

ALAMEDA COUNTY

Is bounded on the north by Contra Costa, on the east by San Joaquin, and on the south by Santa Clara county, with the bay of San Francisco as its western boundary. It is almost square, some thirty-five miles each way, and has an area of over half a million of acres divided between high hills, valleys and plains. The strip of land some five miles wide that lies between the high hills on the east side and the tide waters of the bay on the west is one of the richest quality, is under a fine state

of cultivation, and sells for the highest prices paid in the State.

The hills furnish good pasturage, and the valleys east of the Coast range, many of them quite extensive, furnish fine grain lands, and are equally valuable for raising vegetables and fruit of unsurpassed excellence. In 1872 it raised 1,711,807 bushels of wheat, nearly 600,000 bushels of barley, and large quantities of Indian corn and oats, together with immense quantities of fruit and vegetables for the markets of San Francisco. In 1872 the estimate of the Surveyor General gave the county 39,500 inhabitants, a much larger population than any county in the State, except San Francisco; since that time the number has increased very largely, and it now has probably nearly or quite 50,000.

In many respects this is believed to be one of the finest counties on the Coast for a residence; consequently it is filling up faster and increasing in population more than any county in the State, except San Francisco. Oakland, its principal city, will be noticed in its proper place in another chapter.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY.

This fine county is bounded on the north by San Mateo and Alameda counties, on the east by Stanislaus, on the south by Monterey, and on the west by Santa Cruz county. Its length is thirty-five miles, snd its breadth thirty miles, with an area of some 700,000 acres, one half or more adapted to cultivation, and the balance furnishing excellent

pasturage and abundance of fine wood and timber. The valley of Santa Clara is twenty miles wide where it commences at the head of the bay of San Francisco, extending in a southerly direction about thirty miles; it is one of the most beautiful valleys in the State. In 1870 it had a population of 26,269, which has since increased, it is believed, to over 30,000. The assured value of property in 1872 was nearly $21,000,000. There was, in 1870, in the county fifty-five schools, and 6,188 children between five and fifteen years of age.

It produced, in 1872, over a million and a half of bushels of wheat, besides other grains, such as barley and oats. The hills and valleys on the east and west sides of the county are well adapted to fruit culture, particularly the grape, which is raised in great quantities and of superior quality.

The dairymen find the hills are more reliable for feed through the summer than the valley land, suffering far less for rain, and containing rivulets and springs of fine water sufficient for stock at all seasons of the year. In the vicinity of Gilroy, a flourishing town in the southern portion of the county, tobacco raising has become an important business, which promises to repay the capital and labor expended, far better than that invested in most of the mining enterprises.

The climate and soil of Santa Clara Valley are wonderful in their support of vegetation, and every plant, from the tropics to the pole, flourishes here. The palm, which belongs to the hot countries, the fig and the olive of the milder climate, and the fir, pine beech and maple, of the northern clime, all

live here in health as though indigenous. There is no part of the State, probably, where the climate is more healthy and agreeable the year round than in this valley. There is no climatic disease here. This remark, however, applies generally to the State; yet, perhaps there are some locations of which this is not quite true. There is less fog here during the year than most any other part of the State.

The new Almaden quicksilver mines are situated in the foot hills, on the western side of the valley. They have produced immensely, and paid their owners large dividends in past years, but at present are less profitable.

SOUTHERN INTERIOR COUNTIES.

HOW SITUATED, AND WHAT THEY PRODUCE.

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SAN BENITO COUNTY.

This county, formerly the northeast portion of Mohterey County, is bounded on the north by Santa Clara County, east by Merced and Fresno, and south and west by Monterey County, is about fifty-five miles long, and from twenty-five to thirty miles wide, and contains an area of over 800,000 acres, of which a large portion is mountainous, and unfitted for cultivatiou. The San Benito River runs through the county, uniting with the Pajaro near the southern bountary of Santa Clara Couniy. The statistics of San Benito have been included with those of Monterey heretofore, and the general diseription of the county is included in that of the latter. It has a fair proportion of arable land which produces fruit, vegetables, grain and pasturage equally well as other portions of the State. It has large quantities of land unoccupied, and offers maey excellent inducements for farmers, dairymen and stockraisers to invest their means and labor in this comparatively new settled part of the State.

It is believed that rich quicksilver mines will be found in the mountains, as cinnabar has been discovered and worked to advantage in the mountains of the adjoining counties.

MERCED COUNTY.

This county is bounded on the north-east by Fresno, on the south-west by San Benito, on the north-west by Stanislaus and on the south-east by Monterey County. It is some sixty miles long and nearly thirty wide, with an area of over a million acres. It mainly lies in the valley of the San Joaquin, that river running through the center; the Merced River also runs through a portion of the county, emptying into the San Joaquin near its northern boundary. There are several other streams in the county which, in the wet season, are considerable rivers, but in the summer are wholly without water.

The land in the great Valley is rich, and in wet seasons produces crops of grain equal to the best in the State; 1872 being a favorable year, it turned out nearly a million and a half bushels of wheat, and barley and oats in oats in proportion. All it wants is to be well irrigated at the proper seasons, to insure crops of grain, grass, fruit and vegetables without fail.

Cotton growing has been tried with success by Major Strong, on his plantation on Mariposa Creek. He has planted 480 acres the present year, and has no doubt of realizing a good profit; the experience the past years having demonstrated the

fitness of the soil, and the kind of labor required to secure the crops.

It is understood that the large land-owners are willing to sell to actual settlers, for improvement, moderate sized farms for reasonable prices, as it is certainly for their interest to do; and should this be a fact, the population, which in 1870 was but 2,000, will soon be quadrupled to the advantage of all concerned.

MARIPOSA COUNTY.

This county is bounded north by Tuolumne County, east by Mono, south by Fresno, and west by Merced. It is sixty miles from east to west, and nearly thirty from north to south. It conains over eleven hundred thousand acres, a large, part of which is covered with mountains, some of which are among the loftiest in the State. Mount Dana is over 13,000 feet high, and several others over 10,000 feet in altitude.

Comparatively little land suitable for cultivation is found in Mariposa County, still there is, on the margin of its streams, many small valleys and natural meadows that produce fine crops of grain as well as vegetables an dfruit of the greatest excellence. Its foothills and mountains, with the valleys intervening, furnish fine feed for stock during the summer months, and many cattle and sheep are driven there for pasture, during the dry season of the year.

Mining, however is the great business of the county; its quartz and placer mines have been very productive in past years. The Josephine and Pine

Tree lodes, belonging to the Mariposa Company have produced large quantities of rich ore, as have also many other lodes; but it is not generally believed that very large profits have been realized by owners of the stock of that Company.

There are various other mines located here, as well as gold placers, which have been very rich, but are now exhausted; but there are, without question, many undiscovered mines in the county that will hereafter richly repay their fortunate discoverers.

The Yosemite Valley lies near the south-eastern boundary of the county, and furnishes some of the most beautiful scenery to be found in the world; its fame has already extended to other lands, and visitors from the Eastern States and Europe, to the Golden State, make a trip to the Falls and Valley of the Yosemite; one not to be omitted on any account. There is also a grove of mammoth trees, in this County, from twenty to thirty feet in diameter, and over three hundred feet in height.

The population is at present, less than in former years.

MONO COUNTY

Is situated east of the main portion of the Sierra Nevada mountains; is bounded on the north by Alpine County, on the east by the State of Nevada, on the south by Inyo County, and westerly by Fresno, Mariposa, Tuolumne, and Alpine counties. It is about one hundred and fifty miles long, with a breadth of forty, and has an area of over three and a half millions of acres, a great

portion of which is rough and mountainous. It has some of the highest mountains in the State lying on its western boundary, on the summit of the Sierras.

Mono Lake, which is fourteen miles long by nine wide, lies wholly in this county. There is one island in the lake two miles and a half long, and several of smaller size. Its waters are both salt and bitter, containing lime, borax, carbonate of soda and salt. It is said to be excellent for washing, far preferable to the best soap and soft water. It is unfit for bathing purposes, and has no living thing in its waters. Owen's River, which flows into Owen's Lake in Inyo County, rises in this county, as does Walker's River, that runs into the State of Nevada and empties into Walker's Lake. There is in the vallies of these two rivers much rich land, that, with proper cultivation and irrigation where required, produces fine crops of grain, and the vegetables common to more northerly counties; the elevation of these valleys—over five thousand feet above the level of the sea—giving a climate many degrees colder than that on the western side of the Sierras.

There is plenty of wood in the mountains for timber and other uses. There have been placer mines that paid well near Monoville, a place situated in the vicinity of Mono Lake; but the placers have for years been exhausted, and are now deserted by white men. There are many quartz mines, and mills have been erected to work the ores, which have generally not been profitable to

their owners, though the ores are said to be not wanting in gold. Mono County has also silver mines said to be of great value. Distance from all railroads and the want of good roads generally have greatly retarded the settlement of this section of the State, for, with all its drawbacks, it possesses many attractions.

FRESNO COUNTY

Is bounded by Merced and Mariposa counties on the north, by Mono easterly, by Tulare southerly, and by Monterey and San Benito westerly. It is one hundred and twenty miles long, and about sixty-five broad, with an area of near five million of acres, a large portion of which is arable and capable of being made very productive. Its eastern part reaches into the high mountains of the Sierra range, while its western portion is a plain that, in its natural state, is ordinarily too dry to be valuable. That part of the county lying west of the mountains and extending west, is well watered by rivers running through it in various directions, and emptying into the San Joaquin. Along the rivers are large quantities of rich land, which produces grain abundantly, and will, when more fully occupied, furnish large quantities for market. Thousands of acres of overflowed tule lands lie on the shores of the San Joaquin and King's rivers, and are really a portion of the finest land to be found in the State.

It has land adapted to raising all kinds of grain, vegetables and fruit of every variety. A recent

number of the *Fresno Expositor* has the following from Borden:

"Friedlander & Chapman are planting the largest almond orchard in the world—30,000 trees. They have ninety acres of alfalfa, which is looking very fine. They are growing flax, tobacco, buckwheat, castor beans, and have the finest garden in the valley, in which they have growing oranges, almonds, dates, sugar-cane, etc."

Fresno has some fine copper mines, which could be worked with profit were the freight to San Francisco reduced to a smaller rate. There are half a dozen rich mines that could, with a reduced tariff of freight, be worked to advantage. Placer mining has been very profitable on the banks and in the beds of several of the rivers in this county, and is still prosecuted with a much reduced reward in many localities.

TULARE COUNTY

Is bounded on the east by Inyo county, on the south by Kern, on the west, northwest and north by Fresno county. It is nearly a hundred miles long from east to west, and about fifty broad on an average, from north to south, and has an area of over three millions of acres. No richer land can be found than this county contains. It has several considerable rivers running from the high mountains on its eastern boundary, and emptying into the Tulare Lake, which lies almost wholly within its limits. That lake is thirty-two miles long and twenty-two broad, with a wide

border of tule bottoms on its margin, that are overflowed most of the year. Singular as it may appear, in spite of these extensive swamps of tules it is claimed by residents in that vicinity to be the most healthy climate in the State. The waters of these lakes, as soon as the limits of the marginal periodical flow is past, are pure, clear and cold, abounding with fish of a quality of unsurpassed excellence, even in the hottest seasons of the year. If a canal were opened from the foot of Tulare to the head of navigation on the San Joaquin River —no expensive operation—there would be a water communication, from within thirty miles of the southern limit of this county, for fresh water craft of considerable burthen to the bay of San Francisco—an enterprise of no distant accomplishment. The lands in the vicinity of these lakes are mostly in the hands of private parties, but as far as this countyis concerned, they are not held for the purpose of monoply (as that word is understood), but are for sale.

There are rich mines in the mountains some fifty miles east of Visalia the principal town and seat of government of the county. These mines furnish ores containing copper, silver and gold, and if half as valuable as reported, they will give fortunes to their proprietors. Anthracite coal has been found in the foot hills some twenty miles from the county seat.

Tulare is rich alike in agricultural and mining resources. and will, in a few years, be a thickly-settled portion of the State. At present it offers abundant inducements to persons in search of

good locations for permanent homes, with fair prospects of wealth rewarding industry and good management.

INYO COUNTY.

This county is bounded on the north-east by the State line of Nevada, on the south-east by San Bernardino, on the west by Kern, Tulare and Fresno, and on the north by Mono County. It is nearly triangular in shape, over eighty miles on each side, and contains about three millions of acres, of which but a small portion can ever be made available for farming purposes. It lies entirely on the east side of the main range of the Sierras, has the Inyo Mountains running from north to south, through the middle of the county, and the Panamint, another, and more elevated range, farther east; and still another range on its eastern boundary.

Owen's Lake is located in the central portion of the county, it is twenty-two miles in length, and nearly ten miles wide; and, though fed by the fresh water of Owen's river, and other streams of the same kind, its waters are intensely salt, wholly unfitted for use. The Valley through which Owen's River flows, contains considerable rich land, that, with irrigation, produces large crops of vegetables, grain, and fruit. There are many small valleys that, to a limited extent, are suitable for cultivation, and furnish grass for cattle in no great abundance.

A portion of Death Valley is in this county. This valley is forty miles long and ten wide; it is

supposed to be the dry bed of a lake, the waters of which, had, like Owen's and Mono Lakes, contained soda and salt in solution, and drying up, left a crust several inches in depth, on the bottom of what had been a lake. Observations made by a party of U. S. officers, some years since, show the valley to be about four hundred feet below the level of the ocean. The heat of this valley in summer is absolutely terriffic, and without fresh water, it is easy to imagine the suffering of the unfortunates who, losing their way, and without food or drink, lie down in despair to die in this horrible valley.

With all its disadvantages, Inyo is not without inducements to enterprising persons, who do not fear some present inconveniences, when rich prospects are offered. It contains many rich mines, which are now being worked to some extent, and should they prove as valuable as anticipated, this will be one of the best mining districts in the State. The Panamint district contains mines that, if on being more fully developed prove to be equal to assays hereto made, will be exceedingly valuable. The Sylvania district is said to contain mines equally rich, and with many advantages of wood and water, for working the ores to advantage. An extensive salt mine has been discovered near Panamint and other mines of the same kind in the vicinity of the Inyo range of mountains.

KERN COUNTY

Is bounded, north by Tulare, east by Inyo and

San Bernardino, south by Los Angeles, southwest by Ventura and San Luis Obispo Counties. It is about one hundred and twenty-five miles long from east to west, and sixty-five miles wide, with an area of nearly five millions of acres. On its eastern side its boundary is the summit of the Sierra Nevadas, and those mountains occupy the whole eastern portion of the county. The Kern River rises in these mountains, and draining a snow belt of two hundred miles, enters the Tulare Valley twenty miles above Bakersfield, the largest town in the county, and running thence twenty miles to the lakes, affording great water-power for mills, and immense quantities of water, for irrigating the rich plains of the valley.

Kern and Buena Vista Lakes are both in this county, while Lake Tulare is one third of it within its limits. In the vicinity of these lakes and along the sloughs connecting them are the best lands, and strange as it may seem, in spite of extensive swamps of tules, the most healthful climate in the State. For consumptives the climate is unequaled.

Within the past year, the *Southern Californian* says, "The population and property of the county have more than doubled."

Mining has been pursued as a business for the last twenty years in some portions of the county, with reasonable success; at present it is carried on more systematically, and with more reliable profit than in past years. At Kernville a large mill is being erected, at Havilah, on Piute Mountain, and other places, rich mines are being tun-

elled and worked, in many cases with good results. Like other mining counties, this furnishes a wide field for mining enterprises, and many fortunes to the fortunate and persevering.

For the farmer thousands of acres of Government lands lie open to pre-emption and homestead, at $2.50 per acre in the Tulare Valley. The Southern Pacific Railroad Company also has a large tract of land for sale. These lands are rich alluvium, very fertile, easily irrigated from the river and farmers usually take two crops a year. The climate is much the same as that of Sacramento.

The great Southern Railroad will pass through this valley, and add immensely to the value of its farms, as well as to the mines in the mountains not far distant.

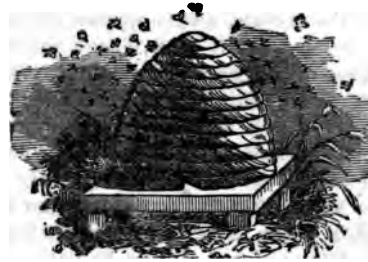
MODOC COUNTY.

This is a new county, created by an act of the Legislature at the last session, and approved February 17, 1874, and is not included in the reports of the State officers, except as a part of Siskiyou County, of which it formed the eastern portion. It lies mainly on the east side of the Nevada Mountains, and is a part of the State, partaking very little of the general characteristics of California. It is bounded, north by Oregon, east by Nevada, on the south by Lassen and Shasta Counties, and on the west by Siskiyou; and has an area of some three millions of acres, a large portion of which is mountainous, and unfit for cultivation.

As before noted, in describing Siskiyou County,

Surprise Valley, which is in the new county, has much arable land, that is of excellent quality, and produces fine crops of grain, as well as good feed for stock.

There are several lakes of considerable size in the county, on the borders of which, and in valleys through which small streams empty into the lakes, are many natural meadows, and productive parcels of ground, which, it is understood, are fast filling up with a good class of inhabitants.



LIFE IN THE COUNTRY.

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It is proposed to give a separate account of the different productions of the State, and of the various interests that have grown out of them; each under a separate head as follows:

GRAIN RAISING.

The staple grain in this State, as in all countries where it can be raised to advantage, is wheat, the finest of all the cereals, and in no part of the world are larger crops or grain of a better quality produced. There are several varieties cultivated; indeed all the choicest kinds known have been introduced by the rich and enterprising husbandmen who have made their homes on the rich plains and in the fertile valleys of this Pacific State. For years after the farmers began to raise grain on this coast, they were content to plow their land after the winter rains had commenced, and sowing their seed in the newly turned over ground. This served very well at first, and in favorable years fine crops were raised without further cultivation, and frequently from the grain left on the field after harvesting another crop grew up, without labor, the following year. This mode of *farming* is at present less universal, as experience

has shown that the better the cultivation the more certain the crop. By summer fallowing or plowing the ground, it is now well ascertained, a good crop may be raised with almost absolute certainty, while, by following the slovenly practice of earlier times, there are many chances of losing the labor and seed entirely. The wheat grown has the advantage of most that is produced in other countries, in that it can be shipped to Europe and carried there without injury, passing through the tropics twice—an ordeal that would destroy the grain raised in most portions of the globe. Wheat, like gold, is always in demand, and though at times selling for a less price, it at all times finds purchasers. The great valley of the State produces the largest portion of the wheat crop raised in the State, generally nearly two-thirds of the whole quantity. There are many smaller valleys on the coast and interior counties, equally well siuted for grain culture, and giving crops fully satisfactory to the farmers. There is not a county in the State where wheat cannot be raised, and not one that does not return more or less as produced to the Surveyor General's office.

Barley is likewise grown in all parts of the country; nearly nine millions of bushels in 1872, and some in every county. Its quality is so superior that large shipments of it are made by railroad to supply Western and Atlantic States.

Within a few years past oats have been raised in large quantities, and have proved profitable.

Rye is easily grown, and, were it in demand, could be produced in abundance.

Indian corn, though not suited to many portions, is successfully cultivated in other parts of the State, and crops are raised that cannot be surpassed in the valleys of the Mississippi.

Buckwheat is easily raised, and produces well wherever sown.

Rice might, and probably will be, grown here, as there are many localities well suited to its cultivation

The average production of wheat per acre is larger than in any other State in the Union. With the irrigation system began in various portions of the valleys of the San Joaquin and Sacramento, completed, the grain products will be greatly increased, and made almost certain for all time to come.

GRASSES, NATIVE AND FOREIGN.

There are a variety of native grasses to be found here, some of them of great excellence. To the eye it often appears the ground is entirely naked, when in fact it is covered with dry grass and seeds that furnish nutricious feed of which cattle and sheep are fond, and on which they thrive and grow fat. This feed is derived from what is known as "burr clover," a native of, and grows in the middle and southern portions of the State. Bunch grass is another native grass of value. Wild oats grow on the hills in various places, and are valuable for feed for stock.

Red and white clover, timothy and redtop, and other foreign grasses are raised to a limited extent, *but the fav*orite of all the foreign grasses is "alf-

alfa," a species of clover, which with roots finding their way into the earth until they reach sufficient moisture, furnishes feed in abundance the driest seasons, and is so deeply rooted as to make it almost impossible to stop its growth.

Many natural meadows are found in the low grounds on the shores of the rivers and creeks in various parts of the State; the grass is course, and is not a favorite food with stock, but in dry seasons is of great value. Irrigation will cause great changes in the production of feed for stock. Alfalfa, if plentifully watered, it is said, produces grass that can be cut many times in the year, and remains green at all seasons. Other grasses can also be raised to great profit by the same means, and help to add greatly to the resources of the State.

GRAZING AND STOCK RAISING.

Raising Stock is the business of many large capitalists in the middle and southern portions of California. On the great plains, lying on either side of the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers, neat cattle in great numbers are raised, and to a less extent the same may be said of the southern and coast counties, and of those lying near the bays connected with San Francisco. The old Mexican stock is little esteemed, and sells at low prices, while that raised from the fine stock brought from the Atlantic States and Europe is highly valued, and realizes good prices. Cows of the best breeds, and working oxen, command prices highly remunerative to stock raisers. Cat-

tle are to be found in every county, and are raised in greater or less numbers in every valley where cultivation has been commenced. No finer beef can be found than that which may be daily seen in the markets of San Francisco and other towns in the State.

Sheep raising is of equal importance as a business in California, the yearly wool clip being nearly forty millions of pounds, and worth not far from $15,000,000. In 1873 the report of the Surveyor General made the number of sheep about five millions, to which large additions have since been made. Sheep thrive on land where cattle and horses would starve, and are well adapted to the dry hills and plains, where little rain ever falls, and where living springs and streams are "like angels' visits, "few and far between." No expense has been spared in procuring the finest breed of sheep, from the Eastern States, and it is now said, no better can be found in any country.

Horses in sufficient numbers to supply the requirements of the country are raised here, many portions of it being adapted to that purpose.

Hogs are easily raised in some parts of the State, and grow and multiply with little care and attention from their owners; when properly fatted, they make good pork, and supply a demand which can always be relied on.

Angora Goats have been brought here, and it is hoped will be profitable.

FRUIT CULTURE.

California is peculiarly a fruit country, there being hardly a fruit known that cannot be successfully cultivated in some parts of its wide domain. In Los Angeles and the other southern counties, Oranges are grown, of the finest quality, and with less trouble than other crops. San Bernardino is even superior to Los Angeles, in some respects, in producing oranges entirely free from the black mold, so common at Los Angeles. This delicious fruit, as well as lemons and limes, can be grown in all the southern and interior counties, as far west as Sacramento, but the principal supply will always come from the southern coast.

Figs are grown in nearly all parts of the State, and in many portions of it, in large quantities; many of which are dried and sent to market, finding a ready sale at a remunerative price.

Apples grow everywhere, and Peaches in equal abundance; of these fine fruits, hundreds, if not thousands, of bushels, are cured for sale, and find a market quite equal to the large supply.

As before stated, all kinds of fruits can be, and are produced here, and hundreds of people obtain an easy living by the business of fruit-growing, and curing it for sale.

COTTON, FLAX, RAMIE, AND JUTE.

Cotton growing is likely to become one of the great interests of the State; experiments in the southern and middle sections having proved suc-

cessful beyond the expectation of the most sanguine planters. There are millions of acres equally well adapted to the growth of this invaluable staple, as were the few acres on which the experiment was first tried, or as the hundreds of acres now bearing cotton in the southern interior counties.

The average yield exceeds that in the cotton States on the shores of the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico, being from 300 to 500 pounds per acre, and sells for 18 to 20 cents per pound, or say $80 for the product of one acre; the cost of whicn does not exceed $30, leaving $50 as clear profit. Cotton has been planted in gardens in some parts of the Sacramento valley, and with such success that its cultivation may be expected to extend over a large portion of the valley, as well as over that of the San Juoquin and Tulare, and also over thousands of acres on the southern coast. When the system of irrigation in the great valleys is completed, and water is furnished at a reasonable rate, cotton will be one of the most valuable of the crops that can be raised on the ground irrigated; and large plains, that are now dry and barren, will give an immense return of this valuable product to those who have faith in the enterprise.

FLAX is grown only for its seed, but can be raised to almost any extent, and when mills and factories are estabtished here to separate the fibre and manufacture it, after being fitted for that purpose, it will become one of the valuable products of the coast. It is said to be a native of the State, and to grow wild in many places.

Ramie has been cultivated the last two years, in Gilroy, with entire success, by J. S. Finch. In 1870 Mr. Finch conceived the idea of introducing it into California; he went south, visited the various plantations, and thoroughly acquainted himself with the manner of its cultivation and growth. One thousand plants were then procured, and set out in Alameda County, and from this number, 75,000 plants were raised in 1871, nearly all of which were sold for Australia.

From the first 1,000 plants, which were set out on an acre of ground, $15,000 were cleared, over and above expenses. The following year he raised and sent 60,000 plants to the Sandwich Islands and 190,000 to Central America. In 1873, Mr. French cultivated twenty-six acres of ramie, on Twichell Island, in the Sacramento River, for the fibre, from which he raised 226,000 plants from one crop, and realized a net profit of over $300 per acre. The fibre from this plant, in its raw state, finds a ready sale at 30 cents per pound, and after the first year yields two crops annually, averaging about a ton per acre at each cut.

The fibre of the ramie is very white, fine and glossy. It is used in making all kinds of cloth, from the coarsest duck to the finest dressgoods, and is in every respect equal to silk, having a gloss more like satin. In fact it is stated that the silks which now come from France are at least one-half ramie, the only way to detect it being by burning, the ramie blazing up like cotton, while the silk curls up like woolen. It is the strongest

fibre known, being even stronger than the best Belgian flax. Goods made of it will not tear, and are the most durable manufactured.

Jute is an article that should be largely cultivated, as some millions of dollars are annually sent to foreign lands to pay for the jute that could be raised in this State to advantage. Having all kinds of lands and climates, there is no question at all that suitable places can be found for its production. It is raised in Louisiana, and there is no reason to doubt it can be in many parts of California; and as there are factories and paper mills here that use it, a home market is secured for a large quantity whenever it is produced. Some experiments are being made this year which will to some extent show what can be done to raise jute to profit.

TOBACCO CULTURE.

This much-loved and much-abused weed has been raised in small quantities nearly ever since the country was occupied by American citizens, but it is only within the past two years that it has attracted attention; the discovery of a cheap process for curing, which has been patented, bidding fair to make it an important interest. Gilroy, a fine town in the southeast part of Santa Clara County, is the locality selected by the cultivators as peculiarly adapted to the production of the best quality of this article. An incorporated company, known as the American Tobacco Company, own the patent for the newly discovered process of curing tobacco, and is extending its operations on a

large scale. Last year the company had 500 acres under tobacco; this year they have near double that area, to which must be added 500 acres planted by other parties in that vicinity. There is no good reason why California should not export yearly many millions of dollars' worth of tobacco. Our climate is such as to enable us to produce an article similar to the best Havana. Certainly the cigars used in our own country should be made of California tobacco, and the millions of dollars now paid for the foreign article be kept at home to enrich our own citizens. That there is "big money" in it, does not admit of a doubt.

VEGETABLES, ROOTS, ETC.

All the vegetables required for food, such as potatoes, onions, beets, parsnips, carrots, radishes, turnips, cauliflowers, cabbage, peas, beans, pumpkins, squashes, melons, cucumbers, asparagus, lettuce, rhubarb, etc., are grown and thrive in California, and in many instances in greater perfection than in other places. Singular as it may appear, the cabbage frequently if left to grow for years, often attains a height of six to seven feet, with green leaves during the whole year. Cabbage heads weighing forty to fifty pounds have been raised, and those weighing fifteen to twenty pounds are common in the markets. Onions grow to a size that would surprise all of the famous onion growers in Wethersfield, Conn.; not uncommonly weighing from two to over three pounds, and as much finer in quality as ex-

ceeding in weight those raised in the Eastern States.

Potatoes.—This staple food for a large portion of our people can no where be raised in greater perfection than here, and no where are larger crops secured. Almost fabulous stories are told of the yield on some portions of the coast.

Turnips grow of immense size, those weighing ten to twenty pounds are not uncommon ; those sold in the markets are usually remarkably sweet, and free from the sharp taste that renders them unpalatable.

Beets.—Common beets are sometimes seen that weigh upwards of a hundred pounds; those weighing twenty and thirty pounds are frequently seen in the market. Sugar beets, as before stated, grow larger and are better adapted to sugar-making than in the beet sugar producing countries of Europe; and their cultivation for that purpose is yearly extending, promising in a few years to be a profitable occupation for thousands.

In 1870 the manufacture of sugar from beets was first commenced, and 500,000 lbs. was made. In 1871 it increased to over 800,000: in 1872, to one and a quarter millions: and in 1873 to one and a half millions. The yield of sugar to the acre of beets averages nearly 2,500 pounds. It is a good article and finds a ready sale.

Squashes and Pumpkins are peculiarly adapted to the climate and soil of California, and grow to a size not often seen elsewhere.

Melons, of all kinds, grow equally well, and of a quality not to be surpassed. It is proposed to ex

tract sugar from one species of melon, known as the sugar melon, from which in other countries sugar is made in considerable quantities. It could be raised to any extent, and might prove remunerative.

It is useless to particularize *all* the various kinds of roots and vegetables grown, but it is not too much to say that in no country is a greater variety to be found, nor any in which they attain to greater perfection.

MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTIONS.

Hops seem peculiarly suited to the climate and soil of California, growing and bearing well in various localities. It never fails of yielding good crops, is subject to no blight on account of too heavy dews or showers, always producing a harvest of the most perfect and valuable quality. While in the Atlantic States and Europe it often fails, here the crop is always certain, and can be picked at leisure, and not in the hurried way uncertain weather makes indispensable in other countries.

Mustard is one of the productions of the State, and is most annoying to the farmers, it having spread over much of the best land in the valleys. It is very nard to eradicate, and grows so large as to rise above the grain and injure the yield to a large extent. Many bushels of it are harvested each year and sent to market for table use, it being of the finest quality for that purpose. Some of the seed is crushed and the oil it contains ex-

tracted, and many prefer it for domestic purposes to any other.

The Tea Plant was introduced some years since, and, as the climate of some parts of the country is not unlike that of China and Japan, it was very reasonably believed it could be successfully cultivated. Either the plants imported lost their vitality before they were put in the ground, or the place was unsuited to their growth; as nothing is published to the contrary; still it is believed it will yet be successfully cultivated on this side of the Pacfic and on this coast.

The Soap Plant is a singular production, possessing properties very similar to soap, besides being, when dried and properly prepared, an excellent substitute for curled hair for mattrasses.

Chickory is grown here for mixing with coffee, long use having given a taste for it mixed with coffee, to such an extent that large quantities of it were imported for the market, before it was supplied by its production in Yolo and other counties lying near the waters of San Francisco Bay.

DAIRYING.

The Coast counties are to a large extent well suited to dairy purposes. The moist, cool sea breezes keep the grass fresh and green the year through, for some miles inland from the ocean, and while securing a constant supply of feed so temper the air as to be just what is wanted by the butter maker. Dairying is an important business and employs some thousands of persons in two thousand large and small dairies in this State.

Probably ten millions of pounds of butter are made here yearly, selling for an average of not less than 30 cents per pound, equal to $3,000,000 for that article alone. In addition to this, large quantities of cheese are made yearly. A cheese factory has been built near Petaluma, similar to those that now monopolize cheese making in western New York, and other States. No better butter or cheese is made anywhere than is manufactured in this State. Certainly, when the price of land, climate, and all other things are taken into account, no country offers superior advantages for carrying on the dairying business; and it may fairly be calculated that this State will become celebrated as a country producing butter and cheese equal to the finest found in any country.

IRRIGATION.

It must be admitted that in the southern portion of the great valley of California, and to some extent in the middle of the same valley, occasional dry seasons make good crops uncertain, and sometimes entirely destroy the hopes of the farmer whose sole reliance is on his grain fields. To remove this uncertainty, and to assure good crops in this portion of the State, a system of irrigation has been devised, and partially put in operation, that promises to make this the most productive part of the State. There is every facility for introducing water at the southern end of the San Joaquin valley, that will thoroughly irrigate millious of acres and will by that means be made capable of pro-

ducing large crops of grain, grass, cotton, or whatever is adapted to the soil and climate, a limitation that excludes but a small portion of what is really valuable. The valley of the Sacramento presents equal capabilities, and can be irrigated with the same facility and advantage. The same may be said of the valley of Kern river, that empties into Tulare Lake, where thousands of acres of land may be made of great value by a moderate expenditure of capital. There are besides these scores of other valleys in various parts of the State where irrigation can and will be resorted to with great profit to the owners of land adjoining.

The *Sacramento Record* very truly says :—

"There is no country where the climate and formation of the land indicate so clearly artificial irrigation as the great natural remedy for the disabilities under which we labor as an agricultural country. With irrigation we may adopt the most complete system of rotation of crops, and thus diversify our products to the greatest degree. Irrigation with the waters that fall on the great watershed formed by the mountains surrounding the arable lands of California, will enable us to raise almost every product known to agriculture, and will at the same time of itself furnish in great abundance a better manure than was ever manufactured, or than was ever found on any of the islands of the Pacific."

When this system is carried out to its fullest extent, the productions of this State will be so great as to seem beyond belief to those who have not witnessed the fertility of the soil when properly supplied with moisture by means of irrigation.

MINES AND MINING.

GOLD.

The adventurers from all countries, who in 1848, '49, and '50, flocked to the shores of California, were attracted, almost solely, by the discovery of gold, of which they first heard the latter part of 1848. They neither knew or cared whether it was a desert, or a fertile land; that it contained the gold out of which was to be coined the bright pieces which the Hon. Thos. H. Benton, in his warfare against the banks, said would be seen when paper money was prohibited by law, "shining through the silk purses of the farmers' wives," was quite enough for them to know. For many years gold mining was the great business, almost the only occupation pursued in the Golden State. And truly the amount of gold mined in 1849, '50, and '51, valued at over one hundred and fifty millions of dollars, and by a comparatively small number of miners, was so great as to astonish the world; and as the news spread from shore to shore, induced people of all nationalities to turn their steps to the golden land. In a few years the country was overrun with prospectors in search of gold placers, and the beds of the runs or streams, as well as their banks, were examined with crith-

cal eyes, until it was known if they contained gold in sufficient quantities to warrant their working. After the first ten years from the time gold was discovered, the yield fell off very greatly, and other interests became more and more important. At present gold mining is believed to be little, if any, more profitable to those engaged in the business, than can be realized by hiring out at farming.

Notwithstanding this, there are many rich discoveries made every season, that give wealth to the fortunate, and no one doubts that this will continue to be the case for scores of years to come.

The gold mines are divided into two kinds, placer and quartz. In the first the gold is found mixed in layers of sand, gravel, and clay; in the latter lying imbedded in rock, either hard or soft The original placer diggings were found on the bars and beds of rivers and mountain streams and on their banks, the dirt containing the gold being dug and washed in various ways, the earthy particles flowing off in the water, leaving the gold at the bottom of the washer, long tom, or sluice used by the miners. Other methods have since been introduced, especially to operate on high banks containing gold sufficient to pay the cost of more expensive means to separate the precious metal from the earth through which it is distributed.

Quartz mining is altogether a different process, is, in reality, mining in the ordinary sense of the word. Ordinarily the rock in which gold is found crops out, or rises above the surface of the ground and gives indication of the riches it contains. *There does not* seem to be any rule by which the

learned mineralogist can be guided in the search for mines of gold bearing quartz, as so far they have not been more successful than others. On the contrary the richest mines have in nearly every instance been discovered by illiterate and ignorant men.

Grass Valley, in Nevada County, has been built up by its valuable gold-bearing quartz mines, the far-famed Allison, which has produced over $2,000,000, Massachusetts Hill, $5,500,000, Osbern Hill, $1,000,000, Empire, $1,300,000, and many others in that vicinity equally valuable. In Mariposa County the Princeton mine has yielded $4,000,000, and some others have paid well to their proprietors. Tuolumne, Calaveras, Amador, El Dorada, Placer, Sierra, Yuba and Plumas, all have rich quartz mines which have been or are being profitably worked. Besides these all the mountain counties contain quartz mines more or less valuable. In the returns made to the Surveyor General in 1872 it is stated there were in that year 213 quartz mills in the State, crushing nearly three hundred thousand tons of ore that year.

SILVER

Ores have been discovered in many parts of the State, but have not been worked to advantage on the western slope of the Sierras, while on the eastern side several mines have made better returns, but far less than was hoped for. The most profitable are those which contain large portions of lead, which, with the silver it contains, is smelted at the mine and sent to the refining works

in San Francisco, where the silver is separated from the lead, and both being disposed of, the miners and capitalists are well paid for their labor and investment.

QUICKSILVER

Is found in many parts of the Coast range of mountains, particularly in Santa Clara County, at New Almaden, in Fresno County, at New Idria and other places, and in Napa County in several localities. The New Almaden has been one of the most valuable mines known, producing since the country came under the American flag, quicksilver valued at nearly $40,000,000. At present but little over a quarter of the quantity produced in former years has been obtained from this mine. The New Idria and other mines in Fresno County send to market yearly about 6,000 flasks, and the mines in Napa a somewhat larger quantity. Some improved processes for extracting the metal from the ores which have been introduced promise to economize the process—make inferior ores valuable and increase, the profits generally.

COPPER

Ores are plentiful in many places, but the mines at Copperopolis, in Calaveras county, have produced the largest quantity of rich ore and are best known. A few years since they were estimated to be worth millions of dollars, and a large force was at work taking out ore, which was sent to *Stockton,* 28 miles distant, to be taken to San

Francisco, and shipped to Europe. A fall in the price of copper, and other causes, made the business less profitable, and now comparatively little ore is obtained in that vicinity. There are other copper mines in the State worked to some extent, and said to be valuable.

IRON

Ores are plentiful in various places in the Coast range as well as on the western slope of the Sierra Nevadas.

COAL.

The principal coal mines are in Contra Costa county, on the east side of Mount Diablo, six miles west of the landing on the San Joaquin River, with which it is connected by a railroad. The coal is of good quality and is used for steam purposes on the rivers and bays connected with San Francisco, and in the manufactories of the State. Valuable coal mines have also been opened at Lincoln, on the line of the Overland Railroad, in Placer County, and near Ione City, in Amador County; a railroad to the latter is being made, and arrangements for working the mines extensively are in progress.

BORAX, SULPHUR AND SALT

Are natural productions of California, and are found in abundance.

ASPHALTUM, LIMESTONE, MARBLE AND GRANITE

Are abundant in different parts of the country, and can be had in any quantity.

MANUFACTURES.

The census of 1870 assures us that there were 3,985 manufacturing concerns in California, employing 15,302 persons, with a capital of $40,000,000—paying $35,000,000 for raw material, $13,000,000 for wages, and producing $66,000,000 worth of goods annually—leaving the sum of $18,000,000 as a profit on the use of $40,000,000 for one year. There were 604 steam engines with an aggregate of 18,493 horse power, and 271 water wheels equal to 6,877 horse power, connected with the various manufacturing establishments in the State.

In these returns are included those for the manufacture of flour, lumber, sugar, machinery, gold from quartz, printed matter, cigars, clothing, malt-liquors, boots and shoes, castings, carriages and wagons, woolen goods, harness, distilled liquor, etc.

The most numerous are those for making flour, of which there were 136, with 318 sets of millstones producing flour valued at $8,000,000 yearly; The number of saw mills was, the same year, 300, value of lumber $6,000,000. The foundries and machine shops turn out finished work to the

the amouut of $5,500,000, the sugar refineries $4,000,000, quartz mills $3,400,000, woolen mills $1,200,000, and other branches of manufacture making in the aggregate an annual product of $66,000,000, of which San Francisco furnishes over one-half. Sacramento is credited with manufactures to the amount of $4,000,000 yearly, Santa Clara $2,300,000, Santa Cruz $1,430,000, Nevada and Yuba each $1,100,000, and San Joaquin and Mendocino each $1,000,000, the balance being made up by the other counties in smaller sums. Though the greatest portion of the manufacturing done in the State is confined to San Francisco, there is not a single county that does not contribute to swell the sum total; and to furnish employment to machinists, mill-wrights, manufacturers and workmen. Were water power more abundant and to be found less remote from navigable waters, or was coal to be had at a less price, one of the obstacles to extending factories for the production of a great variety of goods would be removed; still there are some advantages enjoyed that to a great extent counter-balance the obstacles. The great increase of the manufactures during the past ten years proves this, and it may reasonably be expected that increase will be continued, and California eventually become a self-sustaining State, producing and manufacturing all that is required by our own citizens, besides exporting largely to less skillful and enterprising communities.

COMMERCE.

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Commercially considered, few countries are better situated for a world-wide trade than California, and no harbor, or city, can boast of greater natural advantages for building up a commerce that will make it one of the principal centres of trade, than San Francisco. There is no harbor on the western shore of America, from Alaska to Chili, that can compare with it in advantageous location, or in accessibility and safety. With Asia and the isles of the Indian Ocean, with Australia and the isles of the Pacific, with Mexico and the west coast of South America open to the most direct and cheap water communication, and the whole North American continent connected by the overland railroad, to which may be added Great Britain and the continent of Europe,—surely its position is such that it cannot fail of controlling the commerce of the "Orient;" the commerce that at one time made Venice the Queen City of the business world; at a later period poured wealth almost unbounded into other European cities, and in our own time has helped to make London the financial capital of the world. For many years after *the American* flag was hoisted over California,

its commerce mainly consisted of imports required to feed and clothe the crowds of adventurers who flocked to its shores when the discovery of gold was proclaimed to the world. By degrees this trade has changed, and now more tons of freight go from our ports than are received from all other places, with the exception of the coastwise trade in lumber.

The city of San Francisco, which previous to 1848 was but a small village, has risen in importance until now it ranks as the fourth city in the United States in the amount of goods imported, and duties paid into the federal treasury, New York, Boston, and Baltimore only exceeding her in the value of their imports.

The exports of the State range from $65,000,000 to $75,000,000, while the imports about equal the exports. In 1873, Flour and Grain to the amount of $20,000,000 were exported; of Wool nearly $8,000,000; Ores, $1,750,000; Wines, $1,000;000; Leather two-thirds; Quicksilver four-fifths of a million; Lumber a third; and Salmon a quarter of a million, with a variety of other productions to make up the sum total.

Our imports are: of Sugar, four millions; Provisions as much; Coal three; Clothing twelve; Hardware four; Nails and Iron two; Agricultural Implements three; Jewelry two; Dry Goods six millions; with Tobacco, Coal-oil, Boots and Shoes, Drugs, Crockery, and other goods, a large portion of which could and should be made in our own State.

The total tonnage that entered the harbor of San Francisco in 1872, was 1,277,000, the vessels numbering 3,670. The coastwise tonnage was larger than the foreign, the first being 634,000 tons, the latter but 505,000; and from Atlantic American ports 96,000. The number of coasters was nearly 3,000, with an average tonnage of about two hundred each. From this statement it will be seen that a coastwise trade has sprung up in a comparatively short time, that has already become larger than that with all the world besides, and is increasing greatly year after year, while that with foreign countries generally is diminishing. The trade with China and Japan, however, is an exception to this, as its value is augmenting greatly since regular steam navigation has been secured.

POPULATION.

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It would be difficul to find a population in which all races and nationalities are more fully represented, than that of California. The native Mexicans, in 1841, numbered, by their own accounts, less than 6,000; scattered from San Diego to San Francisco, and the lands lying near the rivers and bays connected therewith.

Even before the war between the United States and Mexico, which resulted in the cession of this State to the Union, the fame of California as a fine country had become known to many, and its political importance to the nation was well understood by the federal authorities at Washington. In consequence of this, a number of enterprising citizens from the western States, left their homes for the shores of the Pacific, intending to settle in California. In due time they arrived, and with some additions of their countrymen arriving by sea, located themselves where it seemed most to their advantage; and they and their descendants are to-day among the most wealthy and respectable citizens of the State.

After the close of the war emigration received a new impulse, and hundreds of adventurers from

the Atlantic States, turned their attention to the Pacific Coast. The discovery of gold at once attracted thousands and tens of thousands in the same direction, and by 1850 the population of the State had increased to upwards of 90,000.

When the Emigrants from the Atlantic States and Europe, to the eastern shores of the Pacific, began to give life to the land of gold, they were met at San Francisco by natives of China, and other Asiatics. The discovery of gold attracted the Mongolian race, equally with the Caucassian, and in the scarcity of male and female domestics from other lands, the "moon-eyed celestials" were welcomed by the earlier settlers in this State. Old residents will recollect that in 1850 they occupied a position in the Fourth of July procession, and no one said a word against their participation in the ceremonies of that day. Since that time large numbers of Chinese have landed in San Francisco, and from there have spread over the entire State, not a county being without more or less of that peculiar people. Thousands of them have found their way to Nevada, Oregon, and other States and Territories; and, if not adapted to our civilization and institutions, it must be admitted they are a patient and industrious people.

The following table shows the population by counties, as given in the United States Census for 1850, '60 and '70, and also the California State Census of 1852; together with the Surveyor General's official estimate for 1873; and the total number of *registered* voters in each county in 1873:

POPULATION OF CALIFORNIA BY COUNTIES, FROM THE FIRST CENSUS TO THE PRESENT TIME.

COUNTIES.	U. S. Census 1850.	Cal. State Census 1852.	U. S. Census 1860.	U. S. Census 1870.		Report of Surveyor General	
				Asiatics	Total Popul'n	Estimated Population in 1873.	Regist'd Voters, 1873.
Alameda	.....	.....	8,927	1,934	24,237	39,500	6,304
Alpine	.....	.....	.....	8	685	1,050	350
Amador	.....	.....	10,933	1,631	9,582	10,500	3 176
Butte	3,574	6,423	12 107	2,094	11,403	15,000	3 962
Calaveras	16,884	20.185	16,302	1,432	8.895	9,500	2,728
Colusa	115	537	2,274	271	6,165	13,000	2,500
Contra C'sta	.....	2,786	5,328	160	8,461	10,300	2 670
Del Norte	.....	.....	1,995	217	2.022	2.300	492
El Dorado	20,057	40.000	20,562	1,531	10,309	9,220	2,800
Fresno	.....	.....	4,605	427	6,336	7,300	950
Humboldt	.....	.....	2.694	59	6,140	11,000	2,484
Inyo	.....	.....	.....	29	1 956	2 500	782
Kern	.....	.....	.....	143	2,925	5,000	866
Klamath	.....	467	1,803	542	1,674	1,800	415
Lake	.....	.....	.....	119	2,969	3,200	1,140
Lassen	.....	.....	.....	17	1,327	1,700	913
Los Angeles	3,580	8,329	11,336	236	15,309	19 200	5,434
Marin	323	1,035	3,334	361	6,903	9,000	1,698
Mariposa	4,379	7,405	6,243	1,104	4,572	4.000	1,421
Mendocino	55	384	3,967	126	7,545	9,000	2,906
Merced	.....	.....	1,141	186	2,807	3,500	1,520
Mono	.....	.....	.....	42	430	600	261
Monterey	1,872	2,001	4,739	230	9,876	10,500	4,000
Napa	405	2,116	5,515	260	7,163	13.455	2,990
Nevada	.....	20.583	16,447	2,629	19,134	19,509	6.598
Placer	.....	10,783	13.270	2,407	11,357	14,000	3,597
Plumas	.....	.....	4,363	911	4,489	4,500	1,300
Sacramento	9.987	12,418	24,145	3,598	26,830	36.000	7,000
San Brnrdno	.....	.....	5,554	16	3,988	7,250	1,650
San Diego	798	2.817	4,326	70	4,951	9.600	2,225
San Franc'o	.....	36,154	56 805	12,018	149,473	175,000	42,642
San Joaquin	3,647	5,029	9,434	1,628	21,950	25,000	5,000
S. L'sObispo	336	502	1,782	59	4,772	6,500	2,100
San Mateo	.....	.....	3,214	519	6,635	7,500	1,750
Santa Barba	1,185	1,525	3,543	29	7,784	10,000	1,350
Santa Clara	.....	6,764	11,912	1,518	26,246	28,500	7,928
Santa Cruz	643	1,219	4,945	156	8,743	9.000	2.843
Shasta	378	3.833	4,360	574	4,173	5,200	1,680
Sierra	.....	3.741	11,389	809	5.619	5,200	2.100
Siskiyou	.....	2,021	7,629	1,457	6,848	8,000	2.751
Solano	580	2,835	7,170	919	16,871	16.871	5,960
Sonoma	560	2 208	11,867	473	19,819	26,500	.....
Stanislaus	.....	.....	2,245	306	6,499	7,000	2,334

COUNTIES.	U. S. Census 1850.	Cal. State Census 1852.	U. S. Census 1860.	U. S. Census 1870.		Report of Surveyor General	
				Asiatics	Total Popul'n	Estimated Population in 1873.	Regist'd Voters 1873.
Sutter	3,444	4,320	3,390	208	5,030	6 825	1,415
Tehama	.....	.....	4,044	275	3,587	6.000	1,635
Trinity	635	1,200	5,125	1,095	3.213	3,309	904
Tulare	.....	8,582	4,638	99	4,521	8,000	1.500
Tuolumne	8,351	17.647	16,229	1,539	8,150	7,500	2.800
Ventura	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,138	734
Yolo	1,086	1,440	4,716	392	9,899	11,000	5 245
Yuba	9,673	19,758	13,671	2,333	10,851	11,000	3,591
Total	.....	225122	380,015	49,209	560,223	693.609	170,924

But while in 1873, the Surveyor General estimated the population at 693,609, other estimates make the increase in 1873 to be 60,000, and for the first half of 1874, by emigration, 30,000, which, with the probable increase for the balance of the year, when added to the natural increase, will probably, by the month of January, 1875, give us a population not much, if any, short of 850,000; and by the centennial anniversary of American independence, it may be calculated with reasonable certainty, the Golden State will have a population of a million ; and with the other States and Territories on the Pacific, over a million and a-half of souls on this side of the continent—one half as many as the whole United States contained one hundred years previous; and who is bold enough to predict the future of this Pacific Slope, one hundred years hence ?

It should be borne in mind that this increase *has been* mainly confined to the agricultural coun-

ties, and to the cities and towns on the navigable waters of the State; though quicksilver, quartz, and silver mining have built up many small villages, and increased the mining population in some cases, while, as a general rule, the inhabitants of the mining counties have decreased, in some cases more than one half.

Probably no equal number of people can be found in any country, possessing more intelligence combined with the same measure of enterprize and industry.

GOVERNMENT LANDS.

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In nearly every county are to be found lands of more or less value, the title to which is still in the United States. The original settlement by the Spanish and Mexicans did not go far inland, neither did they extend much to the north of the bay of San Francisco; consequently the interior valleys, as well as the foot-hill region and mountains of the State, and the coast counties north of the bay, were open to entry by citizens of the United States, when the laws regarding public lands were extended to the Pacific coast. Since then very large quantities of the public domain have been pre-empted and taken possession of, and by one means or another the title to large tracts has been concentrated in few owners. There are millions of acres of public lands yet undisposed of, subject to entry, lying in the southern portion of the State, in detached parcels, in the mountains, and valleys in the Tulare basin, in the foot-hills adjoining the San Joaquin valley, in the coast counties north of Mendocino, and in all the northern counties, land enough to furnish homes for a population of millions. It is believed that nearly *fifty millions* of acres can be successfully cultivat-

ed, and as the estimate is that but 4,500,000 acres are under cultivation, it is evident that but a small portion has yet been occupied.

The government surveys have been extended over 33,000,000 of acres, of which the Mexican grants cover 8,000,000; reserved for educational purposes, 7,500,000 acres; sold, 4,000,000 acres; given as homesteads, 600,000 acres; and 800,000 acres to the State as swamp lands. The railroad grants cover 30,000,000 acres, of which a portion is of little value, and should not be deducted from that available for farming purposes.

To secure a title to land under the homestead law, a person must reside on it five years, and pay fees to the officers amounting to $32; this will entitle him to 80 or 160 acres, according to circumstances, whether the land is within or outside of the limits of a railroad grant. It may require some time and perseverance to find public land that is desirable for settlement, on account of location and other circumstances; but it is certain that much government land of the finest quality is still open to entry in many parts of the State, and especially in the northern portion.

The records of the State Board of Equalization show the number and size of farms in California. These records tell us there are *one hundred and twenty-two* farms of TWENTY THOUSAND acres and upwards; 236 farms of over 10,000 and less than 20,000 acres; 104 of 5,000 and less than 10,000 acres; 4,080 of 500 and less than 5,000 acres; and 23,315 of 100 and less than 500 acres.

CITIES AND TOWNS.

San Francisco.

By the consolidation act, passed in 1856, the boundaries of the city and county of San Francisco were made the same, and for most purposes the city charter and general laws relating to counties, were consolidated, and the powers of government placed in the hands of the same officials. (As the boundaries will be found in the description of coast counties, it is unnecessary to repeat them here. See p. 48.)

The city is built on the northeastern portion of the county, with the waters of the bay on its northern and eastern shores. Originally the ground on which it stands was to a large extent sandy hills, rising by degrees from the water, and in some places reaching an elevation of two hundred feet and upwards. Many of the lower hills have been leveled, still leaving the higher elevations to be graded hereafter. On the eastern shore of the city the water was shallow, but it has since been filled in far enough to reach deep water, where it fronts on the bay. Previous to its occupation by the forces of the United States, the 9th

of July, 1846, Yuba Buena, as it was then called, was scarcely large enough to be entitled to be called a village, but after the hoisting of the American flag, the change of the name to San Francisco, and the discovery of gold at Sutter's mill shortly after, it soon became famous the world over. In a brief period the bay was filled with vessels of all descriptions, and a town sprang up as if by magic on the site now occupied by the Empire City of the Pacific Coast.

It was a singular spectacle, a city with regular streets, stores of all kinds, hotels, restaurants, gambling houses, and liquor saloons, three-quarters of which were either cloth tents or light framed houses covered with cloth of all shades and materials. In these frail shanties, valuable goods were stored and sold day after day, to customers, at an advance that should have satisfied the most grasping.

In 1848 the population of the city was less than 500; in 1850 it had increased to 20,000; in 1860 the United States census made the number 56,831; in 1870, 136,059; and the present year, 1874, Langley's Directory (good authority), gives us 200,770, as the actual population of the city; to which it may added, that at no previous period has it increased more rapidly than it is now doing.

Probably no city can be found with a greater variety of races among its inhabitants. While a large majority are Caucassian, most portions of Asia, Africa, the Indian and Pacific Islands, and the mixed races of Mexico and the South American States, all have here representatives. Of the

200,770 in the city, Langley tells us 14,500 are Chinese; and 1,600 colored people of various nationalities.

The value of property has increased quite as fast as the population. In 1850-51, it was assessed at $21,621,000; in 1860-61, at $35,057,000; in 1870-71, $114,759,000; in 1873-4, $212,208,000. The annual taxes, which in 1851 were $432,000, in 1860-61 were over $1,000,000; in 1870-71 were over $3,000,000; and in 1873, $3,400,000, besides large sums collected for assessments made for street improvements, and collected from the property benefitted.

The current expenses of the city in 1865-6 were $916,934; in 1869-70, $2,098,610; and in 1872-3, $2,826,670. The bonded debt, April 1, 1874, was $3,237,000, part of it paying interest at 6 per cent, and the balance 7 per cent per annum.

It is estimated that there are nearly 23,000 houses in the city and county, of which over 4,000 are of brick, some of them equal in size and beauty to any seen in the older cities on the shores of the Atlantic.

The city is divided into twelve Wards, very unequal in size and population at this time, and formerly elected one Supervisor for each ward; but at present, while selected one from each ward, they are all voted for on one ticket. The same number of School Directors are elected, but without reference to location, and they also are all voted for on one ticket.

CHURCHES.

There are six churches of the Baptist denomi-

nation, a Baptist Chinese mission, and a mission Chapel; the Congregationalists have five churches; the Episcopalians seven, and six missions; the Evangelical Lutherans, seven; the Hebrews five congregations; the Methodists have twelve churches and a Chinese mission house; the Presbyterians, twelve churches and a Chinese mission house; the Roman Catholics twelve churches, three Convents, one Monastery and Chapel, two Colleges, one Orphan Asylum and a Magdalen Asylum; the Swedenborgians have two churches; the Unitarians one; the Universalists two; and there are several other churches of various names. The value of church property is estimated at $6,190,712, of which the Roman Catholics own over half, invested in churches and other institutions. The ministers of these churches are quite equal in ability to those in the older States, and many of them are hardly excelled as pulpit orators.

SCHOOLS.

There are thirty-five Primary Schools, thirteen Grammar Schools, and two High Schools, besides several Evening Schools. The number of children attending these schools at present is 23,662; at Private Schools, 6,181; in both, 29,843.

The school census taken this summer makes the number of children between 5 and 17, 38,054; of these, 8,211 do not attend any school. Under 5 years of age there are 22,498 children. Of the one hundred private colleges and schools, twenty-one are under the control of the Catholic Church. The

people of San Francisco are justly proud of their Public Schools, as they believe them to be equal to the best in the Union.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The U. S. Custom House and Post Office, situated on the west side of Battery street, on the block bounded by that street, Washington, Sansome, and Jackson, is a fine structure, and well adapted to the uses for which it was designed; but the great increase of business has made more extensive accommodations necessary. To furnish what is required, a larger building is in course of erection on the same block, fronting on Sansome street. The new building will be used for the Post Office, for United States Court Rooms, and also for offices for other officials in the service of the federal government, many of whom have occupied offices rented at high rates, in various parts of the city.

The new U. S. Mint, located on the corner of Mission and Fifth street, a spacious and beautiful structure, is situated on a lot 275 feet square, and is said to be in its machinery and the general excellence of all that is required to make it complete, the most perfect Mint ever built in any country. The old Mint in this city was so small that its operations were much less than were required; with the new one there will be no difficulty in meeting all the demands of the increasing business of the Pacific Coast.

The City Hall, in course of construction, will be *a fine building* when completed. Its location is

not generally thought to be judicious, as near Market street, between Seventh and Ninth streets, is at present too far from the business centre of the city, and likely to remain so forever.

The City and County Hospital is a convenient wooden building of sufficient size, and well suited to the purposes for which it is used. It is situated a proper distance from the thickly settled portion of the city, and is well conducted by those in charge.

The Industrial School is located still more distant, has a small farm attached, has good buildings, and as no complaints are made, it may be presumed to be properly governed—which, if true, the Superintendent, Captain Wood, deserves great praise.

The present City Hall and County Jail, though not altogether inconvenient, being considered temporary, are not worthy of particular notice.

The school houses and churches are many of them fine edifices, creditable alike to the city and to the various denominations to which they belong.

HOTELS.

The Hotels of San Francisco are admitted by strangers to be equal to the best in any country. There are at present seven large establishments, each one of which can accommodate from 200 to 400 guests, charging from two to three dollars per day. The leading houses are the Occidental, the Lick, the Grand, and the Cosmopolitan, all first-class establishments. The Lick House is said to

have a finer dining room than can be found in any house of entertainment, either in New York or Paris. Many prefer those not named, as equally good and more quiet. There are in all over sixty hotels in the city; some of them, though not included in the seven, are little behind those called first class, in their accommodations and good management.

The "What Cheer" House has a reputation in all parts of the world, as one of the best and cheapest houses of entertainment in any country. Commencing with little capital, R. B. Woodward, Esq., now a millionaire, laid the foundation of his fortune by his untiring industry and good management, in building up this famous establishment. Never forfeiting his word, and allowing none to get into his debt, he paid his way, and insisted that those who visited his house should also pay as they went on; he was always able to buy at the lowest rates, and could furnish his table with the best the market afforded, at prices much less than were paid by the best customers who bought only in the smaller quantities required by private families. The number of houses in which rooms are let to lodgers is 520, and of boarding and lodging houses, 380.

The Brooklyn Hotel, on Bush street, adjoining the Mercantile Library, is one of the best furnished in the city, and has been under the charge of Mr. Kelly, one of its present proprietors, for the last 23 years. It has 150 rooms, is kept in perfect order, and is deserving of the extensive patronage it receives.

RELIABLE HOUSES.

The following list, comprising the first and some of the second class hotels in the city, and giving the names of the proprietors or managers, with the location and charges of each, gives the stranger a choice of the houses of entertainment to be found in San Francisco. Those first named it will be seen, charge the highest prices, while many of the others afford every comfort at a less cost:

The Grand Hotel, Johnson & Co., is on Market street, between New Montgomery and Second street. Charges, $3 per day.

The Occidental, Philip McShane, on Montgomery, between Bush and Sutter streets; $3 per day.

The Cosmopolitan, H. H. Pearson, corner of Bush and Sansome streets; $3 per day.

The Lick House, W. F. Harrison, corner of Montgomery and Sutter streets; $3 per day.

The Russ House, S. H. Seymour, Montgomery, from Pine to Bush streets; $2 to $3 per day.

Brooklyn Hotel, Kelly & Andrews, 210 Bush street; $1.50 to $2 per day.

International Hotel, H. C. Patridge, 823 and 826 Kearny street; $1.50 to $2 per day.

Morton House, W. G. Graham, 117 Post street, above Kearny street; $2 per day.

American Exchange Hotel, Bryan Brothers, Sansome, corner Halleck street; $1.50 to $2.50.

Hotel Rhein, Kuhl & Girzikowsky, 909 Kearny street, near Jackson; $1 to $1.25 per day.

Montgomery House, W. Perkins, 613 Mission street; $6 per week.

Overland House, John E. Slinkey, 531 Sacramento street; with or without board, rooms 50c. to $1 per night.

Continental Hotel, Herman Droste, 525 Pacific between Montgomery and Kearny; $1 to $1.50.

Franklin House, H. Doherty & P. Hanley, 321 Pacific street, corner of Sansome; $5 to $7 a week.

New Wisconsin Hotel, Sincock & Trembath, 902 Montgomery street; $5 to $7 per week.

Railroad House, P. Casserly, corner Sansome and Pacific streets; $5 to $7 per week.

National Hotel, P. Gray & Co., 411 Pacific st.; $1 per day, $5 to $6 per week.

COMMERCE OF SAN FRANCISCO.

The number of vessels arriving at and departing from this port in 1873, was 3,647, with a tonnage of 1,293,398, of which 87,733 tons came from American Atlantic ports; from foreign ports, 552,031; and from domestic Pacific ports, 646,387 tons; a larger amount of tonnage, engaged in the Pacific coast trade than in all others put together. The merchandise exports by sea for 1873 amounted to $31,160,208, an increase of six millions and a half of dollars over the preceding year. The exports of treasure the same year were $24,715,125. The combined exports of merchandise and specie were $55,875,-334, an increase in the aggregate of two and a half millions over the year before. This year the value of merchandise sent abroad, almost entirely through this port, will be greatly increased; in all probability it will reach fully *forty millions*, and possibly more. As it is fully

believed the grain crop will reach thirty millions of bushels, there must be over twenty millions for export, which should be worth at least twenty-five millions of dollars, to be added to the wealth of the State through the trade at this port.

MANUFACTURES.

There are three woolen factories in the city, each employing from three to five hundred persons, and making almost every description of woolen goods, from fine broadcloths to the coarser fabrics required for the use of miners and others. California blankets, made of the finest wool, have the reputation of being superior to those made in the Eastern States, or in Europe.

Of Iron Foundries and Machine Shops there are fifteen, some of them large establishments, employing hundreds of workmen. There is also a Rolling Mill, with a capital of $2,000,000, which has facilities for making shafts of any size, railroad iron, and any other description of iron work that may be required. There are several Brass Foundries, the largest of which employ from thirty to forty men and boys each. The Pacific Saw Factory, the only one on the coast, makes saws of all kinds, and of the very best quality.

Of Flour Mills there are eleven, some of them of large capacity. Of Sugar Refineries there are four; Sawing and Planing Mills eleven. One Cordage Factory, of large size; one manufactory

of Wire Rope; seventeen Soap Factories; and two Rice Mills. Besides these there are Silver and Lead Smelting Works and Refineries; Marble Works; Railroad Car, Carriage, and Wagon manufactories; Furniture factories; Breweries and Distilleries; Type Foundries; Cigar factories; several Fruit and Vegetable Preserving establishments; and scores of other manufactures, including nearly everything required for the use of men, women, and children that can be produced by human ingenuity and industry.

Sacramento.

Sacramento is the second city in population, and the seat of government of the State. It is located on the east bank of the Sacramento River, 125 miles from the ocean. It was settled in 1833, by Gen. Sutter, a native of Switzerland, but a citizen of the United States. Obtaining a grant of land from the Mexican government, he built what was known as Sutter's Fort, and made that his residence. On the discovery of gold, 25 miles distant, at Sutter's Mill, on the American River, which empties into the Sacramento on the north side of the city, it immediately became a town of great importance, the miners in all the northern and middle portions of the State obtaining all their supplies from the merchants of that place. Floods and fires have at various times destroyed portions of the city, but it has outlived them all, and is now one of the finest towns on the continent. The State Capitol is a splendid edifice, cost-

ing two and a half millions of dollars. It is a credit to the State. It has many manufactures, and its people are among the most enterprising in the State, and deserve all the success they achieve. The population in 1870 was, as given by the U. S. census, 16,283, and is now estimated at over 20,000.

Oakland.

Oakland lies on the east side of the bay, directly opposite, and six miles from San Francisco. It is claimed by its citizens to be one of the most beautiful cities, not only in California, but in the United States, a claim which will hardly be disputed by well informed persons. There are other cities and towns that at some seasons may be thought prettier, but none can claim, like Oakland, to retain equal beauty through the entire year. In 1850 it had scarcely any inhabitants; in 1860 it was an inconsiderable village; but in 1870 it had become the third city in the State in population; and as it has grown faster than any town in California in proportion, it is believed that with the addition of East Oakland, it will fall little short of Sacramento in population, and will in a very few years be second only to San Francisco in that respect. A wharf one and a half miles long to deep water, enables ships of the largest class to load at the end of the railroad from the cars, which bring wheat and other produce for shipment from the interior of the country. The Central Pacific Railroad has some of its shops, does much work, and employs a large force

of workmen at what is known as "The Point," a part of the city of Oakland which is bound to prosper.

Stockton.

This city is at the head of the permanent navigation of the San Joaquin River, and is the principal port for the great valley watered by that stream. It is a pleasant town, and in the spring, when its flower gardens are in bloom, presents an appearance of beauty which can scarcely be equalled. It is a place of much importance, has had a steady but not very rapid growth, and may be considered as occupying a commercial position which it is not likely to lose. The population in 1870 was 10,066, and as it is constantly increasing, it is probably now some thousands larger. It was the third town in population in the State until Oakland passed it in the number of its inhabitants.

San Jose.

This is the chief town in Santa Clara County, lies near the head of San Francisco Bay, and distant from the Golden City fifty miles. Like Sacramento and Oakland, it abounds in shade as well as fruit trees, vines and flowers, and combines the advantages of both city and country as a residence. It was organized as a pueblo, or city, by the Spanish authorities previous to the Revolution which ended the rule of the Spanish nation in North America. When the Americans took

possession of the country, San Jose had several hundred inhabitants, and when the first Legislature was elected, it held its sessions, in the spring of 1850, in that town. The population increased very slowly up to 1860, when it had but little over 1,000 inhabitants. Since then its growth has been rapid In 1870 it had 7,000, and at present is believed to have over 10,000. It has the finest Court House in the State, costing the county $150,000. Its churches, hotels, stores, etc., are alike creditable to the taste and liberality of the people of the city.

Vallejo.

Vallejo is on the northeast side of a harbor made by Mare Island, which lies on one side, and by the main land on the other; the harbor is at the western entrance of the Straits of Carquinez, that connects the San Pablo and Suisun Bays through which the waters of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers find their way into the ocean. The harbor is all that could be desired; deep, capacious, and perfectly safe. The population of Vallejo in 1870 was 7,391, and as it is becoming a shipping port for wheat and other produce, it will increase in importance, independent of the business derived from the U. S. Navy Yard and Dry Dock, on Mare Island, which has heretofore been its principal support.

Benicia.

In 1850, it was believed by many that Benicia, lying on the north side of Carquinez Straits,

would become a large city, rivalling San Francisco in importance. With a water front of some two miles, where the largest vessels can lie close to the shore, with a fine site for a town, its people indulged in anticipations of future wealth and prosperity which they have failed to realize. In 1870 it had 1,656 inhabitants.

Martinez

Is on the south side of the Straits, is a pleasant town, and may become a place of consequence should the contemplated railroad run through its quiet streets. Its population in 1870 was 560. It was for some years the county seat of Contra Costa county.

Napa City,

In Napa County, lying at the head of navigation on the Napa Creek, is a flourishing town. In 1870 it had a population of 1,879, which has since largely increased. It is fifteen miles distant from Vallejo, and twenty-seven from Calistoga Springs, lying on a railroad connecting those two places. No finer country or more healthy climate can be found than is offered by Napa valley.

Petaluma

Lies on Petaluma Creek, ten miles from San Pablo Bay, into which it empties on its northwestern shore, and forty miles from San Francisco. It is *a fine town*, and had a population of 4,588 in 1870,

by the U. S. census. It is the natural outlet of the trade of most of Sonoma County, one of the finest dairy counties on the coast. A railroad, which passes near and connects with steam navigation at another point, has prevented its continued growth, but it is still a town of some consequence, and not unlikely will regain its influence hereafter.

Marysville

Was one of the most thriving towns in the State, as well as one of the most beautiful, previous to 1860, when it ranked the third in population. It is located near the fork of the Feather and Yuba Rivers, on the north bank of the latter. It is at the head of navigation on both the Yuba and Feather Rivers, and is connected with Oreville, in Butte County, by a railroad built by the enterprise and energy of its citizens. It is also connected with the California Pacific Railroad, and with the Oregon Division of the Central Pacific Railroad. The population in 1870 was 4,738. Marysville has been unfortunate in being flooded by water and devastated by fire on several occasions, but lying amidst fertile plains, and with so many facilities for trade, it can hardly fail of seeing prosperity again returning to a place so favored for business.

Grass Valley

Has the largest quartz mining population in the State, and has been built up by their labors to be

the largest interior town in California. It has a population of 7,000, within the limits of the township, nearly all depending on the quartz mines for support. It is a pleasant town, and has as fine residences, stores, churches, etc., as might be expected in a place where it is said the gold yield is from three to four millions of dollars a year. It is thirteen miles distant from Colfax, on the line of the Central Pacific Railroad, with which station it is proposed to connect it by a narrow guage road, to be built by the citizens of Grass Valley.

Yreka,

The county seat of Yreka County, lies near the northern boundary of the State, eighty miles from Redding, the present terminus of the Oregon branch of the Central Pacific Railroad, and 250 miles north of Sacramento city. It is twenty miles northwest of Mount Shasta, and is itself elevated 1,500 feet above the level of the sea. In 1870 it had 1,063 inhabitants, is surrounded by a rich mining district, and has besides much valuable land in the river valleys near at hand.

Crescent City

Is a small town in Del Norte County, fifteen miles south of the Oregon State line. It lies on the shores of the ocean, the coast line having an indentation that makes an apology for a harbor. Though at first settled as early as 1853, it had in *1870 but 458* inhabitants. Capital and enterprise

may yet make it a flourishing town, there being many reasons why both may be used to profit in that vicinity.

Eureka,

On Humbolt Bay, is a town which in 1870 had a population of 2,049; with its perfect harbor, its unsurpassed timber region, and its proximity to rich agricultural and pasture lands, it cannot fail of a prosperous future.

Arcata,

On the same bay, has 1,000 inhabitants, is a flourishing town, and has considerable trade with the mines in the interior counties.

Santa Cruz,

The county seat of Santa Cruz County, lies on the north side of Monterey Bay, and is the sea port of the fine country in its vicinity. It is a flourishing town, manufactures large quantities of leather, paper, lime, lumber, powder, flour, etc. It has a population of several thousands, and, lying on the ocean shores, and protected from the cold winds by the land, it is a favorite resort of people in search of health and recreation.

Monterey,

One of the oldest, and once the chief town in the State, is situated on the southern shore of the bay of that name. For years it had been enjoying a

Rip Van Winkle sleep, having added nothing to its population or business for the past twenty years, though having a tolerably good harbor, and a country adjacent that with roads not difficult to make, would have made it a flourishing port. At present it is awaking up, and with a railroad connection with the outside world, it will become progressive and prosperous.

San Luis Obispo

Is a small town on the coast to the southward of Monterey. It has a sort of harbor where steamers stop to land and receive passengers and freight, and it must hereafter become a place of much importance.

Santa Barbara

Is situated on the coast line of the State, which there runs nearly east and west, and is consequently sheltered from the cold northern breezes that sweep from Oregon to Point Conception, some forty miles west of this town. Surrounded by excellent land, well watered and finely located in a semi-tropical climate, it is rapidly increasing in population and wealth. In 1870 it had 4,000 inhabitants, to which large numbers have been added the past four years.

Los Angeles

Is the largest town in Southern California. It lies inland, on the Los Angeles River, twenty-five

miles north of San Pietro, the port on the coast through which its commerce formerly passed. It is surrounded by vineyards and groves of fruit trees of all kinds, all of which produce their several varieties in great abundance and perfection. Its population is divided almost equally between Mexican-Californians, and natives of the United States and of Europe. The descendents of the Mexican race, with some notable exceptions, are not desirable citizens; ignorant and indolent, they sympathize with the robber outlaws that gave that fair city much trouble in times past. It has a population of probably not less than 10,000 at this time.

Wilmington

Is at present the port of Los Angeles. The population is over 1,000. A breakwater is being built by the U. S. government, at an expense of over $400,000, which it is believed will make a good and safe harbor for vessels of all sizes, and secure the large trade that must concentrate there at no distant period.

San Diego

The southernmost and oldest town in the State, lies on a fine bay, which makes the only really good harbor south of San Francisco, on the coast. It is but a few miles from the line that separates the United States from the Mexican Territory of Lower California. When the Texas and Pacific Railroad is completed, it will give a communication

between the Pacific Ocean and the Mexican Gulf, more than one-half shorter than that from San Francisco to New York; the first being but 1,500 miles, while the latter is over 3,000. It has some 3,000 inhabitants at present, having increased largely for the last few years, and when the new overland railroad is opened, it cannot fail of becoming a prosperous city. It is a resort for invalids on account of its peculiarly healthy climate.

Visalia

Is located in Tulare County, in a level country, north-east of Tulare Lake. It had a population of 1,626 in 1870, with a prospect of increase which has hardly been realized since that time, though surrounded by a country of great fertility.

Columbia.

In Tuolumne County, in 1860 had over 3,000 inhabitants, and was the largest town in the southern mining counties, was well built with fire-proof banking-houses and stores, and other expensive buildings. It was the center of a rich placer mining district, and had a busy, industrious population. These rich placers becoming exhausted, the town has been deserted by a large part of its people, and it is now comparatively dispopulated, though many still remain gleaning, where such rich harvests of gold have been gathered in years *past.*

Sonora,

A few miles distant from Columbia, being the county seat of the same county, has not fared so hard, but retains a larger portion of its population.

Placerville.

In El Dorado County, has shared the fate of Columbia to some extent, and in 1860 had about the same population. At that time it was on the road traveled to reach Virginia City, Nevada, but since that time the Central Pacific Railroad has taken the travel in a different direction, and Placerville, with its mines exhausted, has ceased to be a place of consequence.

Nevada City.

In Nevada County, was for years a highly prosperous town, is still the county seat, and has many mining claims in it not entirely worked out. It was at one time the largest mining town north of Sacramento, and had 4,500 inhabitants, which number has since been greatly reduced.

CLIMATE.

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In its climate, California has great advantages over other portions of the globe. Those who have studied the subject say they believe it to be more conducive to health, and mental and physical labor, than that of any other country. It is possible other lands may exist that can claim to have better climates, but it would be difficult to make one who has lived here for the last twenty years believe that so many peculiar advantages in this respect can be found elsewhere. With so great an area, stretching some five hundred miles from north to south, and with several mountain ranges running through its vast extent, it has of course a variety of climates, and they must be hard to suit who cannot find one adapted to their peculiar requirements. In the valleys it is, in many respects, unlike that of any other portion of the United States, in that the summers are not so warm, and the winters much warmer, than is experienced in the Atlantic or Mississippi Valley States lying in the same latitude. The transitions from cold to heat are less great, and have much less influence on the health and comfort of the people.

On the coast, the heat of summer and the cold of winter are less than in the interior valleys, the sea breezes from the northwest and west during the first, and from the south and southeast in the latter, modifying it so that where they are the strongest, grapes will not grow in the summer, and grass and vegetables keep green during the winter. Old Californians who arrived here by sea in 1849-50, and later, will remember how pleasant the green hills on the shores of the Golden Gate appeared after the long voyage on the ocean.

High up in the mountains the weather in summer is much cooler than on the plains, and in the winter, though not extremely cold, snow falls in great abundance, in some places blocking up the roads so entirely that miners who follow that business in such localities can communicate with the outside world only by using snow shoes, and taking their chances of passing safely over dangers that few would dare to face.

In the northern portion of the State the weather is very much cooler than in the middle and southern portions. The temperature in San Francisco in January averages 49°, in July 57°, a difference of only 8°; in Sacramento the January average is 48°, July 72°. At Summit, the highest station on the railroad over the Sierra Nevadas, the average iu January is 27°, and in July 60°; at Monterey, in January, 52°, and in July, 58°; at Santa Barbara, in January, 54°, July, 71°; at Los Angeles, 52° in January, 75° in July; at San Diego, in January 51°, in July, 72°; at Humbolt

Bay, in January, 40°, in July, 82° ; at Fort Reading, in January, 44°, in July, 82°; at Fort Jones, in January, 34°, in July, 71°.

That San Francisco has a climate with less variation than any other, is proved by the fact that men wear the same kind and amount of clothing in the summer as in the winter, and by the fact that ladies can be seen in the streets, on every day in the summer, wearing furs to keep them warm, the cool sea breezes making it necessary.

Thunder storms are a rarity, and damage by lightning is unknown. Snow falls in abundance in the mountains, and to less extent in the highest hills, but in the valleys very little falls, and in San Francisco it is never seen. Some winters scarcely a particle of ice is seen, while in others it is more plentiful.

The average number of clear days in the Sacramento Valley is 220; cloudy, 85; and rainy, 60. The average quantity of rain falling yearly in San Francisco is 23 inches; in Sacramento, 21.73; in San Diego, 10.43; at Fort Yuma, on the Colorado River, 3.15; at Fort Humbolt, 34.56. The rainy season, as it is termed, generally commences in November, and continues into the spring, sometimes quite until June, the prospect of the crops being foretold by the quantity of the rain during the wet season; if in excess of the average, larger crops are assured, but if very much less than the average, the crops fall off in like proportion, except where irrigation supplies its place. The following table of rain fall in San Francisco will afford much valuable information to the reader:

Month.	Inches Rainfall.			Comparis'n of months.					Rainy Days.				Rainfall in 1871.	Rainfall in 1872.	Rainfall in 1873.
	Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	No rain.	Below avge	Above avge	50 pr ct. und	Extremes.	Total No.	Annual avg	Greatst No.	Under avge			
Jan.	5.10	24.4	0.58	0	16	5	7	12	240	12.	18	14	3.07	4.22	2.17
Feb.	3.80	8.59	0.00	1	13	7	9	16	218	10.	18	11	3.76	6.97	4.24
Mar.	3.08	6.68	0.74	0	14	5	4	9	214	9.0	14	14	1.29	1.64	9.78
April	1.69	5.37	0.00	1	15	5	8	13	130	8.9	10	13	1.93	1.10	0.44
May	0.59	1.86	0.00	3	14	5	11	16	81	5.4	11	18	.21	0.16	0.00
June	0.05	0.12	0.00	13	18	5	13	18	17	3.3	3	1[illegible]	0.00	0.92	0 00
July	0.01	0,21	0.00	21	21	3	7	24	3	0.7	2	21	0 00	0·00	0,03
Aug	0.02	0 24	0.00	18	19	4	21	22	10	0.1	3	18	0.00	0.00	0.15
Sept.	0 20	1.03	0.00	8	20	1	18	17	28	0.4	4	16	0.03	0.14	0.09
Oct.	0.58	3.14	0.00	6	17	6	16	21	60	1.1	12	1	0.11	0.21	0.68
Nov.	2 87	8 66	0.15	0	19	4	15	13	182	2.5	15	13	3.72	2.62	1.31
Dec.	6.29	10.7	0.58	0	19	5	9	12	285	7.5	21	11	16.74	7.35	10.12

The rain fall for the first six months of the present year, Thomas Tennant, Esq., informs us, is as follows: January, 4.85 inches; February, 1.83; March, 3.55; April, 1.04; May, 0.34; June, 0.08.

It is not amiss here to say, that the earthquakes so much feared for the sake of residents here, by sympathizing friends elsewhere, have ceased to cause uneasiness to the people of the Golden State; who by a residence of many years, have been convinced that there is far less danger from earthquakes in California, than from lightning in the States east of the Rocky Mountains, and that for one person injured here, there are a hundred killed on that side of the continent.

The monthly temperature in several places in California is given in the table below, and also

that in some of the principal cities in other quarters of the globe:

CITIES.	January	Febr'ary	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Septemb	October.	Novemb	Decemb.	Average.	Latitude	
														DEG.	MIN.
San Francisco	49	51	52	55	55	56	57	57	58	57	54	51	54	37	48
Sacramento ...	45	48	51	59	67	71	73	73	66	64	52	45	59	38	34
Fort Yuma ...	56	58	66	73	76	87	92	90	86	76	64	55	73	32	43
New York.....	31	30	38	47	57	67	73	72	66	55	45	34	51	40	37
New Orleans.	55	58	64	70	75	81	82	82	78	70	62	55	69	29	57
London	37	40	42	46	53	58	62	62	57	50	44	40	49	51	29
Naples.....	46	47	51	56	64	70	76	76	69	61	53	49	60	40	52
Honolulu	71	72	72	74	76	77	78	79	78	76	74	73	75	21	16
Jerusalem.....	47	53	60	54	66	71	77	72	72	60	58	47	62	31	47
Canton	52	55	62	70	77	81	83	82	80	73	65	57	69	23	08

As will be seen, San Francisco is favored by a climate at once the mildest and the least variable of any of the places included in the above table; and as a consequence it cannot fail of being the most healthy and pleasant place for a permanent residence.

So far, then, as climate is to be considered, this Pacific State is as much superior to its sisters on the Atlantic, as it is possible to imagine; and the health of its people is just as much better, as its climate and surroundings are more pleasant and agreeable.

LONGEVITY.

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A state table of mortality for the year ending June 30th, 1871, compiled by Dr. Logan, Secretary of the Board of Health, showed that in the various cities and towns and their surroundings, from which returns were received, the total population of which was 256,783, 4,831 died during the year. Of these 774 died of consumption; 380 of other diseases of the lungs; 237 of malarial fevers; 270 of diseases of the bowels; and 3,170 from other causes. The number of deaths to each 1,000 averaged 18.6, varying from 3.4 in Dixon, to 29 in Marysville.

The U. S. census for 1870 tells us that in the previous year 40 per cent of the deaths in the United States at large, were children under five years of age. The report of our State Board of Health makes tne mortality of the same class but 33 per cent., fully 20 per cent. less than the average given by the census of 1870. The Spanish Ammerican population who inhabited California previous to its occupancy by Americans, have mostly been a long-lived race, many of them living to extreme old age. Of the Americans who have made it their home, those who have lived temperate lives, and not exposed themselves by standing for hours in the cold water running from the mountain snows, washing the dirt that contained the

gold they sought, or in some other way violated the laws of life, have found it a most healthy country, and have many of them attained an age which few reach in their native States.

It is not to be denied there was a large proportion of the early gold seekers who succumbed to the unwonted hardships to which they were exposed; living on flour, bacon, and whiskey, without vegetables, and with none of the comforts of life which they had formerly enjoyed, it would have been singular had not the feebler constitutions failed, and the dissipated paid the penalty of their imprudence.

Sunstrokes are wholly unknown in San Francisco, mad dogs are never seen, and deaths from lightning are out of the question. California is certainly a healthy country, as those best know who have made it their homes.

SOCIETY.

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With a population made up of all nationalities, it has always been the pride of California that social distinctions, which keep people at arm's length in English-speaking countries, are generally laid aside on coming to this State. It would be difficult to find a place where a more cordial welcome is given to a stranger, no matter whether he is rich or poor, has a high sounding name or one of no pretension at all. Let him conduct himself like a gentleman, and seek the company of good people, and he will find himself welcome to their society. Though not without a class who fancy themselves of better flesh and blood than others, it can be said with truth that they are looked upon with quite as much contempt by those they scorn as they bestow on those they think below themselves. Codfish aristocracy does not flourish in California; the free and easy life of its first immigrants was too pleasant to be laid aside by those who had the good sense to practice it originally. All branches of business have given large fortunes to the more sagacious and enterprising; the merchant has been no more lucky than the farmer, the mechanic, the miner, the dealer in real estate, the lawyer, or the newspaper publisher. Some of all these occupations have

from being poor, become rich, and many of them have, for a wonder, not been spoiled by their good fortune, and are still the same good fellows as before. There is less difference between working men and capitalists than elsewhere; the working man earns larger wages, lives better, dresses better, and has more self-respect than in any country we have ever seen or heard of, and holds up his head accordingly. Yet with all this, in no city in the Union is courtesy to females observed so strictly as in San Francisco; neither in New York, Boston, or Philadelphia, will men inconvenience themselves so much to accommodate ladies on all occasions. It must be admitted there is a class of degraded men here, as in all other places, that are without respect to themselves or others; but as a rule, this class herd together, and its representatives seldom cross the paths of respectable citizens. In a residence of twenty-five years, and passing through the heart of the "Barbary Coast," the "Five Points" of San Francisco, at all hours of the day and night, I have never been molested or insulted in any way, and am satisfied that a sober man, with a civil tongue in his head, can travel from one end of California to the other, without fear or danger.

POPULAR ERRORS.

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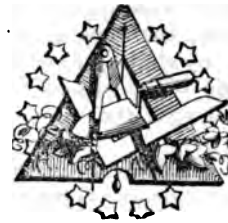
Californians who revisit their former homes, have often occasion to be surprised at the erroneous ideas which prevail among their old friends and relatives, respecting the society, customs, and general condition of affairs on the Pacific coast. They seem to believe the same state of things exists here now, as prevailed in the earliest period of its settlement by the rough people who first trod the shores of the Golden State. They fancy there is still a set of outlaws who trample upon all legal restrictions, going about murdering and robbing without fear of arrest or punishment. So far from the truth is this, that the laws are quite as strictly administered in California as in other States; criminals are as certainly punished, and find it as difficult to escape the reward of their crimes. As a rule, the Judges of the Courts are men well fitted, by character and learning, to fill their places, and the decisions of our Supreme Court are studied with the same respect as those of other States.

Many of the Sheriffs of the various counties have won a reputation for energy and sagacity, in the arrest of criminals, of which they have good right to be proud. Like her sister States, Califor-

nia has many bad people who endeavor to live from the labor of others, but this class is only so far more dangerous as the sparseness of inhabitants gives them more opportunity to commit depredations without immediate detection.

When it is considered that only twenty-five years have elapsed since the emigration began, it is really wonderful to mark the progress made from a state of chaos to a government and institutions in some respects in advance of those on the shores of the Atlantic.

Our friends on the eastern slope, in the midst of appalling thunder storms, and with lightning killing people on every side, have the impudence to congratulate themselves and to pity us because they are, as they believe, safe from the terrible earthquakes they expect will some day swallow up the Golden State; though for ages no damage of importance has been sustained on this coast, and none is feared by the oldest residents.



SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

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The laws of California provide for a system of general education not inferior to that of the Eastern States. Under these laws State Schools are open to all children over five and under fifteen years of age, in every town where they are required. The system and management of these schools are believed to be fully equal to those in the States where most attention has been paid to this most important subject. The character and qualifications of the teachers are strictly investigated, and such only are employed as give evidence entirely satisfactory to those whose business it is to make a thorough examination of their fitness to be teachers.

A State Superintendent of Schools is elected every four years, and County Superintendents and Boards of Education are also elected at stated periods, who have entire control of the Schools in their several counties. The latest enumeration of the children in the State between five and fifteen gave the number as 135,361, of whom 72,971 attended school. There were at the same time 1,612 Schools, and 2,301 teachers, of whom 1,420 were females.

The cost of maintaining the Schools was at that time $2,131,783 yearly.

A State University has been organized and liberally endowed by authority of law. Much is expected from the institution, but so far it has not been able to suit every one, and much unwise contention has seriously impeded its progress and injured its prosperity. It is hoped and believed it will outlive all minor impediments, and become a seat of learning of which the citizens of California will have occasion to be proud.

There are denominational Colleges connected with many of the sects of religion in the State, in most of which the education is of a high standard of excellence.

That a State that has grown up entirely within the last twenty-five years, should have made so many and wise provisions for educating its children, shows a degree of intelligence and regard for the future welfare of its citizens, that deserves the admiration of the world.

LAND TITLES.

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One of the most serious impediments to the settlement of this State has been the large Spanish and Mexican grants, each one covering thousands of acres of the finest valley lands to be found on the coast. There are over eight hundred of these grants, covering in the aggregate nearly 10,000,000 acres. A portion of these have been rejected by the U. S. authorities, and it is possible that some that are yet undecided, will be, like those rejected, declared spurious and void.

Those grants were made for grazing, as the Spanish-American settlers preferred the easy life of raising cattle and other stock to the more laborious one of cultivating the earth and raising grain and other products requiring manual labor. The grants were made by the square league of about 4,440 acres, each one averaging from two to three square leagues, or from 9,000 to 12,000 acres. With a few exceptions, the great valleys of the Sacramento and San Joaquin were free from these impediments to settlement, the title passing from the Mexican to the United States government, and consequently were open to pre-emption and settlement, under the general laws respecting public lands. The same may be said of a large

portion of the hill and mountain valley lands, lying in every portion of the State, and particularly as to that lying north of the bays connected with San Francisco.

The large grants or ranches held under Spanish and Mexican titles have very many of them passed out of the hands of the heirs of the original owners, and have been cut up and sold in smaller parcels to their present proprietors, and are conveyed by a title as perfect as can be made.

The government lands pre-empted and occupied in the manner prescribed by law, and finally confirmed to the occupants by a patent issued at Washington, is also a perfect title to any land it covers. As a general rule, land titles in California are becoming reliable, and with reasonable prudence no one need to fear losing the property he purchases and pays for honestly.

THE FUTURE OF CALIFORNIA.

No one who has resided in the Golden State for a dozen years, and has marked her steady increase in population and material wealth, can doubt that she is destined to a glorious future. That in due time her beautiful hills and valleys will teem with inhabitants; that millions upon millions will find homes of plenty, where even up to this time the foot of man has scarcely trod; there is every reason to believe.

The mineral wealth of California is far from being exhausted, though it is estimated a thousand millions of dollars in gold have been extracted from the earth in the last twenty-five years. There is good reason to believe that a much greater quantity is still awaiting the labor of the honest miner, and that for centuries to come gold mining will be profitable in the hills and mountains of the State. Quicksilver mines are being discovered almost daily, and pay the miner in many cases even better than mines of gold. Silver, copper, iron, and other metals, promise to add equally to the wealth of the State, and to fill the pockets of the toiling seeker for metalic treasures.

In agricultural wealth, no country can surpass California, and with a complete system of irriga-

tion, which must in a few short years be put in operation, she will, like Egypt, yield "corn, wine, and oil," in unequalled abundance. Her mountains and hills will give pasture to herds of cattle and sheep, almost beyond number, and furnish food and the materials for clothing sufficient for the wants of her citizens, and a surplus for other lands. Her principal sea port must be the New York of the Pacific—or it may be the new London of the commercial and financial world, her merchants and bankers holding the destinies of nations in their hands.

The influence of California on the Orient cannot fail of being important; being the outpost of Christian civilization, it must do, (indeed it has already done) much to open the eyes of the people of China and Japan to the advance made by the Caucassian race, while they have rested content with following in the footsteps of their progenitors, who died a thousand years ago. If, as we believe, the light of science and human liberty is to spread over Asia, it must come from this side of the Pacific, and be from here disseminated over the vast population of the continent where our first parents had their abode.

Unlike some, we do not believe California would be benefitted by large importations of Asiatics, or indeed of any other people, who do not readily assimilate with the American people, adopt their ideas and take pride in sustaining the free institutions of the country. The true riches of any land is an intelligent, industrious, and virtuous people,

loving their country and its institutions, and ready, if need be, to die in their defence.

The true wealth of a nation does not consist in great riches in the hands of the few, while the many are struggling for the necessaries of life; that is not the kind that strengthens a nation—not the kind that should be the aim of a free people. For this reason it is more than doubtful whether the introduction of Chinese, almost exclusively of the lowest class, is calculated to benefit California, and the United States generally; or whether it is not better to go slower in the race to fortune, attend more to the moral advancement of our citizens, pay more attention to the education of *all* the children in the State, to see that none are allowed to grow up in idleness and vice, instead of being taught useful trades and occupations; and to prevent, if possible, the introduction of any class of people whose influence shall tend to lower the standard of morality, and lead the rising generation in the paths of crime, and the misery which surely follows.

The Pacific Coast.

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OREGON.

The State of Oregon lies directly north of California, which, with Nevada, forms its southern boundary, with the Pacific Ocean on the west, Washington Territory on the north, and Idaho Territory on the east. Its length from east to west is three hundred miles, and width from north to south, two hundred and eighty miles, with an area of about eighty thousand miles, and containing over 51,000,000 acres of land.

The Columbia River separates Oregon from Washington Territory on the north, and is navigable to the Cascades, 100 miles from the ocean. At the Cascades the river has a fall of over 40 feet in a few miles, above which steamers run 60 miles to the Dalles, when another fall impedes navigation; but above this obstruction, boats run many miles farther into the interior of the Territories adjoining.

The population in 1860, by the U. S. census, was 52,464; in 1870, it had increased to 90,923, and since then it has added to its numbers very largely, not only in the great valley of the Willamette, but in its coast counties, and also in its territory

east of the Cascade Mountains, which run nearly the middle of the State.

The principal rivers in the State are the Colombia, the Willamette, the Umqua, and the Rogue river; the first of which is its northern boundary, the second, near the middle of the western portion of the State, and navigable for 150 miles, and the two latter on the Pacific Coast.

The banks of the Columbia, on both sides, are covered with dense forests of spruce, hemlock and fir, with scarcely a sign of a prairie till it reaches the mouth of the Cowlitz; above this it is interspersed with prairie and timber to the Cascade Mountains, one hundred and twenty miles from the ocean.

The finest agricultural lands lie in the valleys of the other three rivers; that of the Willamette being one hundred and eighty miles long, and from forty to sixty wide. The valleys of Umqua and Rogue Rivers are comparatively small, but equally productive. These valleys are very fertile, yielding wheat and other grains in abundance; and that, too, year after year, without manure of any kind. Fruit trees begin bearing when three years old, the fruit they bear being entirely free from imperfections of any kind, and of the finest quality to be found.

On the eastern side of the mountains the land consists of rolling prairies and level lands well adapted to cattle raising, and of course to dairying, as wild grasses of excellent quality grow there in any quantity. Sheep and horses would thrive there as well as cattle, and would require

little attention at any season of the year. Eastern Oregon contains large bodies of unoccupied land, plentifully supplied with water and timber. It offers many inducements to settlers.

The Pacific counties also have vast quantities of fine land open to entry in the land offices of the United States, that in a few years will be worth ten-fold what they will cost at present.

Iron mines are found here, and already considerable quantities of pig iron have been produced, and sent to San Francisco for sale. Gold is also found in many places, as well as other minerals.

The climate is considered both pleasant and healthful. As far north as Vermont, its summer is cooler than that of the Green Mountain State, with a winter milder than that of southern Virginia. East of the Cascade Mountains the climate is dry, with a winter rather cold, but short, with little snow or rain; but in the spring and summer rain falls in abundance for all purposes.

It would be difficult to convince an Oregonian that his State is not the equal of any other in North America; with abundance of fine land, and no dispute concerning titles, as no Spanish or Mexican grants ever pretended to cover vast tracts of the best lands, but all open to settlers at Uncle Sam's prices; with timber in any quantity, with running streams of pure soft water, added to the rich soil and a population which was to a great degree equal in morality and intelligence to that of the best in any part of the Union, they indeed have much to be thankful for, and great cause to *hope for* a future that will make Oregon one of the *brightest* stars in the national galaxy.

NEVADA.

Nevada is bounded by Oregon on the north, by Utah and Arizona on the east and south, and on the southwest and west by California. It lies between the 35th and 42nd degrees of north latitude, and between the 114th and 120th degrees of longitude west from Greenwich. It contains 112,000 square miles, and has an area of 71,080,000 acres, of which but a small part is susceptible of cultivation; sage brush and alkali plains covering much of its surface. In all parts of the State where water is to be had for irrigation, it has been ascertained that good crops of grain, fruit, and vegetables could be raised, the sage brush plains proving adapted to their growth when the needed moisture was supplied, as it has been in a few places, the most noted of which is at Humbolt station, on the Central Pacific Railroad. There is a garden at this place, which, though in the midst of a sage brush plain, by irrigation has been made a Paradise of beauty.

Nevada has many rivers and lakes within its territory; many valleys lying on the banks of the rivers, and some of them producing bountifully, where well cultivated. Carson River valley contains much good land on the banks of the river; Humbolt River, which runs for nearly three hundred miles through the northern part of the State, has many fertile plains on its banks. Indeed, there are scores, if not hundreds of valleys of different sizes, where good crops can be grown, scattered over the wide domain of Nevada, which

will in time be made available for cultivation. Cattle thrive on the bunch grass and wild sage, and, contrary to all preconceived opinions, grow fat on what was looked upon as a worthless desert.

The mineral resources of Nevada are its principal wealth; not a county in the State being without mines of greater or less value; but the mining district of Virginia City is the most valuable, not only in Nevada, but in the Union. The Comstock vein, which underlies that city, has been traced almost 30,000 feet, of which nearly 20,000 feet have to some extent been prospected. The most valuable of the mines are located on the portion prospected. Many of these mines have produced bullion to an amount almost beyond belief; the sum total all of them have yielded up to this time being over $100,000,000. The Reese River mines were at one time believed to be immensely valuable, and a town of 5,000 inhabitants was built up in a few months, at Austin, which has since lost a large part of its population. The White Pine district has furnished fortunes for many, but at present is less thought of, Pioche and other locations being newer and more attractive to the adventurers who seem to prefer more distant and hazardous chances.

Nevada is in truth but little known, and her resources still less developed, either as a mining or agricultural State. Lying on an elevated plain, from 4,000 to 6,000 feet above the level of the sea, her climate is essentially modified by *her position*, and her productions are governed

by that circumstance; but with an unexplored domain of such extent, it may be expected that large quantities of rich lands will yet be found, and mines of equal or greater riches than those heretofore discovered. And it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that by the cultivation of the valleys and plains, such changes may take place in the climate as may furnish rains at different seasons of the year, that will eventually make the now sterile plains fertile fields—sources of great wealth.

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UTAH TERRITORY.

Utah, the home of the Mormons, lies between the 37th and 42d degrees of north latitude, and between the 32d and 37th degrees of longitude west of Washington. It is bounded west by Nevada, north by Idaho, east by Colorado, and south by Arizona. It contains 87,476 square miles, or 54,064,600 acres, a large portion of which is mountainous and unfitted for farming purposes, while other portions consist of sterile plains, equally valueless.

Still, there are millions of acres of rich soil that with or without irrigation would yield large crops of grain, vegetables, cotton, hay, and other needed productions. Four years ago, official reports informed us that there were 150,000 acres under cultivation; that the average yield was 33 bushels of wheat per acre; oats 31; barley 30; corn 30; potatoes 130; cotton 150 lbs; sorghum molasses 79 gallons, etc. Of the 150,000 acres cultivated, two-

thirds were irrigated. The cost of ditches and canals for irrigation, then nearly completed, would be two millions of dollars.

The large inland salt sea known as Great Salt Lake, lies in the northwest portion of the Territory; it is over 100 miles long and 45 broad; has one island 15 miles long by six miles wide, and several smaller ones, including one with a mountain 3,000 feet high nearly in its centre.

Great Salt Lake City is on the southeast side of the Lake, lying on a plain which gently descends from the base of the foot-hills of the Wahsatch Mountains. It is as beautifully situated as is possible to imagine. With a population of over 20,000, spreading over an area so large as to give room for yards, gardens, and orchards, it is not only pleasant to the eye of strangers, but must be a delightful place of residence. It has a pure stream of fresh water running down each side of all the principal streets, which can be used for irrigating every lot in the city. Whatever may be said of the faith and practices of the Mormons, it must be said to their credit that no city in the Union is more strict in the observance of the Sabbath, more free from drunkenness, or other outward appearances of vice and dissipation.

Utah possesses many valuable mines of silver, iron, and coal. The silver mines produce ores which yield in some instances from $500 to $1,500 per ton. The "Saints," as the Mormons term themselves, fearing that the rich mines in their country would attract a population they could not control, discouraged all explorations, and by all

means in their power prevented the immigration they feared. Within the past few years many mines have been opened, and mining is carried on with large returns to the proprietors and workers. Iron ore of good quality is abundant in many parts ot the Territory, and coal also in several places.

Good timber is plentiful in the mountains not far distant from Salt Lake City, as well as in many other portions of the Territory. On the rivers that empty into Salt Lake, Utah Lake, and the Colorado, which runs through the southern part of Utah, and in the valleys of the mountain ranges, there must be great quantities of valuable land well adapted to cultivation, which the eye of civilized man has never yet seen, but which must soon be explored and made productive. Rich mines are doubtless still undiscovered in this wide expanse of territory, which will in the not far distant future yield their metalic treasures and give capital and impulse to the improvement and enterprise of coming generations.

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WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

This Territory lies on the north side of the Columbia River, which separates it from Oregon; on the east it is bounded by Idaho, on the north by British Columbia, and on the west by the Pacific. It is between 45° 30′ and 49° of north latitude, and between 40° and 48° of longitude west of Washington, and contains 70,000 square miles, and nearly 45,000,000 acres, a very large part of

which is valuable for farming purposes. The finest timber in the world is found in abundance in the best possible situation for sending to market at small expense.

Puget's Sound and Hood's Canal, both arms of the sea, running some hundreds of miles in various directions through the Territory, furnish facilities for trade to a large portion of the country, that give great value to the excellent coal and timber found on their shores in various localities, as well as to the grains and other products of the soil. There is no part of the Pacific coast that offers greater inducements to settlers than this Territory, especially to those who like a cool climate, and desire to engage in dairying, stock raising, and the ordinary pursuits of farmers in the northern States; or in lumbering, like the hardy sons of Maine, who delight in the free forests of their native State. Coal miners will also find profitable employment, a healthy climate, and a fair chance of becoming wealthy.

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IDAHO TERRITORY.

Of an irregular shape, this Territory lies between the 42d and 49th degrees of north latitude, and the 35th and 40th degrees of west longitude from Washington. It is nearly 500 miles from north to south, and 350 miles wide from east to west, having an area of 86,000 square miles, and 55,000,000 of acres of territory. It is bounded on the north by British Columbia and Wyoming Territory, on the east by Wyoming and Montana, on the south

by Nevada and Utah, and on the west by Oregon and Washington. Extending over a region so vast, with the Rocky Mountains near its centre, it has a variety of climates; to the southwest of the mountains it being moderate, while the northern and eastern portion is less agreeable.

Mining is the principal occupation of the people, and was the cause of its settlement by its present inhabitants. A few fortunate ones have done well, but far more would have been wiser to have staid in their old homes and pursued the occupations to which they had been educated. There is said to be much good land in the Territory, well adapted to farming purposes, and especially to raising cattle, horses, sheep, and swine; and it is believed it will eventually supply large quantities of these to other parts of the Union, at a less price than they can be raised in the States nearer the ocean coasts.

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ARIZONA TERRITORY.

Most of this Territory was obtained from Mexico by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, February 2d, 1848; the balance by purchase from the same Government, December 30, 1853. It extends from 109 to 115 degrees west longitude, and from 31 degrees, 20 seconds, to 37 degrees north latitude. It is bounded by the State of Nevada and the Territory of Utah on the north, by the Territory of New Mexico on the east, by the Mexican State of Sonora on the south, and by the States of Nevada and California on the west. It contains 77,383,690

acres of land, and had in 1870 by the U. S. census 9,658 inhabitants. It is divided into five counties, viz: Pima, Yuma, Mohave, Yavapai, and Maricopa.

The Colorada River, which is formed by the union of the Green and Grand Rivers in Utah, forms the western boundary of the Territory, separating it from California. It is navigable for light draft steamers for 500 miles, and has much land on its banks capable of producing almost anything that springs from the earth.

The Gila River rises in New Mexico, and running through the entire Territory, from east to west, empties into the Colorada at Arizona City. There are, also, many smaller streams which afford the means of irrigation to the valleys through which they run, and enable cultivators to realize returns for their labors of which the farmers of more northern climes can have no adequate conception.

Pima County, which lies on the south side of the Gila River, has 5,867 acres under cultivation; the average produce per acre, of wheat or barley is over 25 bushels; of Indian corn, 35 bushels; Potatoes, 70 bushels.

Yuma County reports the yield of grain at 25 bushels to the acre.

Maricopa County has 9,447 acres under cultivation, producing from 20 to 25 bushels of grain per acre.

Mohave County raises less grain, but potatoes, onions, and melons in great abundance.

As a grazing country, the middle and northern

part of Arizona has no superior. There are hundreds of excellent locations unoccupied, and room for millions of stock, to be had at Uncle Sam's prices; which, in a few years, when the Indians are subjugated, will be of great value.

Gold, silver, copper, and lead are found in many places in the Territory, and considerable sums have been extracted, but the difficulty of obtaining water, and the expense of transportation has hitherto made mining generally unprofitable; yet many of the mines are known to be rich, and when better roads are constructed, and the facilities for working them to advantage are provided, there is no question of their great value.

The time will come when Arizona will be a prosperous State; with the Southern Pacific Railroad running through its entire breadth, and bringing it within two hundred miles of the Pacific on one side, and less than a thousand miles from the Gulf of Mexico on the other, it will be the highway of a great trade between the two sides of the Continent, and from its rich mines, and richer fields and pastures, produce wealth in great abundance.

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ALASKA.

This Territory, formerly known as Russian America, forms the extreme northwest portion of North America; is bounded by the Arctic Ocean on the north, by British America on the east, by the Pacific on the south, and by the Pacific and Arctic Oceans and Behrings Straits, that separate

it from Asia, on the west. It lies between 52° and 72° of north latitude, and between 130° and 167° longitude west of Greenwich. The southern part, situated immediately north of Queen Charlotte's Island, is said to be well timbered, and the land not wholly unfitted for cultivation. It is also reported to possess mines of coal and other minerals, but at present the country is mainly valuable for its rich furs, and the fisheries on its coast. Most people regard it as one of Uncle Sam's bad bargains; but it may prove to be of great advantage to the nation, when its resources are more fully ascertained, and should certain national questions (that are quite possible) arise.

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VANCOUVER ISLAND.

Vancouver Island is a British colony, lying on the western coast of North America, situated between 48° 20' and 50° 50' north latitude, and 123° 20', and 128° 30' west longitude from Greenwich. It is over 270 miles long from northeast to southeast, and from 50 to 80 miles broad. It is bounded on the southwest by the Pacific ocean, on the north and northeast by Queen Charlotte's Sound, the Gulf of Georgia, and the waters connecting them, and on the southeast and south by the Straits of San Juan del Fuca. Victoria, its principal town, lies on the south side of the island, nearly 100 miles from the ocean; has a good harbor, and is the most important town in the British *Possessions* on the Pacific Coast; all the trade for *supplying* the miners at Cariboo and other places

in British Columbia centering in this city. The island has some valuable mines at Nanaimo, which furnish some of the best coal found on the west coast of the continent, much of which is sent to San Francisco.

Fine harbors abound on all sides of the island, excellently situated for ports for the fishermen, who will at some future period make the fisheries of the North Pacific as valuable as those for centuries carried on in the North Atlantic.

Vancouver is mountainous, the land not generally regarded as fertile, but sufficiently well timbered, and better suited to pasturage than cultivation. The climate is mild for a country lying so far north, being tempered by the warm current of the ocean, which leaving the southeast coast of Asia, and running in a northeasterly direction, strikes the island and gives it a temperature not unlike that of the west coast of Europe.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA.

This is a vast Territory, lying north of 49° north latitude, and bounded on the south by the United States, on the west by the Gulf of Georgia, Queen Charlotte's Sound, and the United States Territory of Alaska, on the north by the Arctic Ocean, and on the east by New Britain. It has long been in possession of the Hudson Bay Co., to whom it was only valuable for the furs procured from the Indians and other employes of the Company.

Had its settlement been encouraged instead of retarded, it might have developed to a much

greater extent than it has; indeed it was only by the discovery of gold on Frazer's River, some years since, that it was brought into notice at all. But this fact becoming known, thousands of enterprising persons rushed to that river, and at once created a trade of much magnitude, built up towns on its banks, and from a solitude only visited by half-breed Canadians and Indians, made it as well known as any part of the Pacific Coast.

Few of those who tried their fortunes on this river had any success; but some, wandering farther into the country, found localities where rich mines rewarded their perseverance. At Cariboo, far to the north, in a most inhospitable climate, these rich strikes were made by a limited number; but those few found gold as plentiful as it had been in the richest placers in California, and no one can doubt there is still much treasure unearthed in this district. Generally it is believed to be a country offering little inducements to settlers, though it is not unlikely it may hereafter be more highly esteemed. New Westminster, on the banks of Frazer River, is the principal town in the Territory, and is the seat of government.

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